WORKING FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2018

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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Message from the Executive Director

I am pleased to present the 2018 Progress Report which marks the fifth year of monitoring and reporting on the progress we have made in implementing the 2014 – 2019 Strategic Plan. The year 2018 was very busy and exciting for UN-Habitat, with great strides made in the implementation of its strategic plan. This report provides an overview of achievements made at the institutional level and analyses progress made in the seven thematic areas.

The preparation and adoption of new governance structures, achieved after 14 years in December 2018, was a significant milestone. This is expected to strengthen oversight, heighten visibility of sustainable urbanization issues and increase support for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. With improved transparency and accountability, UN-Habitat hopes to win over the trust and further support from Member States, development partners and clients.

In February 2018, we embarked on a bold and ambitious internal change process to transform UN-Habitat into an agency that operates efficiently, effectively and collaboratively. Aligned to the Secretary General's United Nation's system-wide reforms, the team is repositioning UN-Habitat making it fit for purpose and valued. This process is highly consultative involving both internal and external stakeholders.

In May 2018, as the current strategic plan was coming to an end, UN-Habitat started the process of developing a new strategic plan for 2020 - 2025. This will also be aligned to the change process. Lessons learned from through various assessments and evaluations directly related to the current Strategic Plan have also informed the making of the 2020 Strategic Plan, which also incorporated the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global agendas. The 2020 Strategic Plan aims to refocus and sharpen the strategic direction of the agency. The draft plan was endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in December 2018 and is awaiting adoption by the UN-Habitat Assembly in May 2019.

In 2018, we were able to deliver our programme of work meeting most of our planned targets. Through our interventions, there were many transformational results that demonstrate UN-Habitat's expertise and leadership role in sustainable urbanization. I will mention just a few of our normative and operational achievements. As part of our global advocacy and partnership work, we organized the Ninth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF), the largest meeting on sustainable urbanization and human settlements. WUF 9 was attended by about 24,000 participants, representing national, regional and local governments and a wide range of stakeholders. The outcome document, the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Cities 2030, draws attention to persistent challenges faced by cities, urges urgent action, highlights the transformative power of cities and the imperative to leave no one behind.

We celebrated Urban October with 320 events in 82 cities in 51 countries, starting with World Habitat Day with the theme *"Municipal Solid Waste Management"* that was co-hosted in Kenya. The World Cities Day global observance was celebrated in Liverpool, United Kingdom with the theme *"Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities"*.

Through our normative and operational work, we supported cities and countries to improve their urban legislation to achieve sustainable urbanization. We strengthened capacities and used our normative tools to increase tenure security by helping cities survey, register, map and identify properties in dispute, especially in post conflict countries. UN-Habitat assisted the poor and vulnerable people, including women, to secure documents that give them the right to land, property or housing ownership or occupancy. For example, 18,272 households gained improved access to land tenure in Sri Lanka; 82,500 beneficiaries got collective tenure in Sudan; 1312 cer-tificates of occupation were issued to household in Iraq.

Through the planning and design work of UN-Habitat and partners, 500,000 people benefitted from 6 public designs implemented in several countries. In Gaza alone, 100, 000 gained much needed public space while in Dhaka, Bangladesh, girls and women can now use historically "men only" space. UN-Habitat also produced its first Global State of National Urban Policies Report.

Throughout 2018, UN-Habitat and partners continued to support cities that were previously de-pendent on revenue from the central government to generate and collect their own revenue, enabling them to improve urban basic services and infrastructure. 17 cities in Somalia (Somaliland and Puntland) and 8 cities in Afghanistan demonstrate improved revenue collections and services.

With the support of the Global Sanitation Fund, UN- Habitat was able to increase access to ur-ban basic services for an additional 1.2 million people. In 2018, they gained improved access to water and sanitation. Ghana accounts for 270,000 and Nepal 500,000 of that number. In the same year, through the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, four

countries adopted improved slum upgrading and prevention policies and strategies. The Kenya Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policy was adopted by the National Assembly, prioritizing slum prevention and upgrading as national policy. Through the agency's risk reduction, rehabilitation and resilience work, 35,200 school children from four flood-prone provinces in Mozambique benefitted from the resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation of 450 school classrooms and water and sanita-tion facilities damaged by floods.

In terms of our lead role in sustainable urban development, 2018 was significant. UN-Habitat prepared the first of five Quadrennial reports on the progress made in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in close collaboration with 23 United Nations entities, 5 regional commissions and 30 partners. UN-Habitat also led the preparation of a report entitled "Tracking Progress Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements: SDG Synthesis Report – High Level Political Forum 2018" which was the basis of discussions by the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development that was reviewing SDG 11.

The UN Habitat team is looking forward to building on the foundations laid during the last five years. As the 2014 – 2019 Strategic Plan comes to a close, we look forward to expanding the par-ticipation and support of member states, our development and private sector partners to help deliver our mandate - SDG 11, Sustainable Urbanisation - so that no one and no place is left behind.

Maimunah Mohd. Sharif
Executive Director, UN-Habitat

SECTION
01

Executive Summary

This is the fifth Annual Performance Report on progress made in the implementation of the six-year strategic plan (2014-2019) and delivery of the biennial work programme for 2018-2019. The strategic plan is being implemented through three consecutive biennial work programmes and budgets and this is the final phase. The 2018 Annual Performance Report has been prepared in accordance with Governing Council resolution 26/3 of May 2017. In line with the request of Member States, the report presents progress made towards planned results (expected accomplishments), measured against their indicator targets for 2018/2019. In addition, the report describes results or changes realized in 2018 at local, national, regional and global levels with the contribution of UN-Habitat and partners. Some of the transformations taking place with UN-Habitat support are demonstrated through impact stories presented in each subprogramme. The report integrates result of inputs from the four Regional Offices, the countries they cover, as well as from the seven thematic branches.

The report contains four sections. Section 1 presents the Executive Summary which includes, institutional highlights of 2018; financial performance highlights, programmatic highlights and summary of cross cutting, advocacy and partnerships, evaluation and audit. We have also included a timeline of key events for the year 2018. Section 2 presents detailed analytical briefs on the performance of each of the seven subprogrammes. Section 3 presents Regional highlights and Section 4 presents an analysis in the areas of advocacy and partnerships, cross-cutting issues, financial performance, evaluations as well as audit.

UN-Habitat Executive Director Ms. Maimunah Mohd participating in the first ever monthly clean-up with Kibra green youth group in Nairobi, Kenya 2019
© Julius Mwelu /UN-Habitat

Institutional Highlights

• New Management Team

The new Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, assumed office in January 2018 while the Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Victor Kisob, joined at the beginning of October 2018. The Executive Director immediately engaged in the governance review process and simultaneously embarked on a transformational internal review process that included development of a new strategic plan for 2020 -2025 and organizational restructuring.

• Strengthened Governance of UN-Habitat

In December 2018, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 73/539, which established a new governance structure for UN-Habitat. The Governing Council of UN-Habitat was replaced by a universal UN-Habitat Assembly, but the Committee of Permanent Representatives was retained. An Executive Board to oversee preparation of the draft Strategic Plan before its approval by the UN-Habitat Assembly was established. It will review and approve the UN-Habitat's Annual Work Programme and Budget and review financial rules and regulations and matters associated with the management of the Programme.

- ## Repositioning UN-Habitat - Internal Change Process

In February 2018, the Executive Director launched an internal change process to transform UN-Habitat into a trusted, transparent, and accountable programme that operates collaboratively and whose expertise is relevant, valued, and in demand. The change is guided by the following key principles: *good governance; building trust and confidence within the secretariat and between the secretariat and Member States as well with donors; transparency; accountability; efficiency; achieving impact; and awareness of the scale and urgency of current global challenges in urbanization and human settlements development.* The change process has been highly consultative, both internally and externally.

The main achievements to date include development of a new strategic plan, development of the resource mobilization strategy now being implemented and launch of the organizational restructuring process.

Development of 2020-2025 Strategic Plan

UN-Habitat's Governing Council, through its resolution 26/3 requested the Executive Director to develop a six-year Strategic Plan for 2020-2025. The new Plan includes a vision and a mission and has four interconnected and mutually reinforcing domains of change or goals, namely: (a) Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the rural–urban continuum; (b) Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; (c) Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and, (d) Effective urban crisis prevention and response. The four domains of change have twelve key outcomes, several performance enablers, drivers of change and social inclusion dimensions. The strategic plan, which aims to position UN-Habitat as the centre of excellence on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, was endorsed by the UN-Habitat Committee of Permanent Representatives on 6 December 2018 and is awaiting approval by the UN-Habitat Assembly in May 2019.

An Organizational Restructuring Process

As an important part of the internal change process, an organizational restructuring process, which is meant to equip UN-Habitat with a robust, yet agile structure to implement its Strategic Plan and mandates is underway. The organizational restructuring team, appointed in October 2018 and chaired by UN-Habitat's Deputy Executive Director, completed a functional analysis of the programme at the end of 2018. Based on the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan and other inputs, the team has started developing a new proposed structure to improve the programme's efficiency and effectiveness as well as ensure it is structurally fit-for-purpose for implementing the New Urban Agenda and is aligned to the UN Secretary General's United Nations system-wide reform.

The new Plan includes a vision and a mission and has four interconnected and mutually reinforcing domains of change or goals, namely: **(a) Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the rural-urban continuum; (b) Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; (c) Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and, (d) Effective urban crisis prevention and response.**

Financial performance

In 2018, UN-Habitat's implementation amounted to USD 190.9 million representing 76.4 per cent of its annual budget of USD 249.9 million which constitutes half of the biennial work programme budget. UN-Habitat's implementation on the regular budget account, the allocation it gets from Member States assessed contributions to the UN system was USD 14.3 million higher than the initial budget of USD 11.2 million due to high utilization of positions funded by the regular budget and production of the Quadrennial report on Implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

Implementation on the Foundation general purpose account which is financed by voluntary non-earmarked contributions for core normative work was USD 6.1 million or 46.9 per cent of the initial budget of USD 13.0 million because expenditure was deliberately kept low through austerity and cost containment measures due to continuing shortfall in contributions towards this fund. Implementation of specific normative programmes financed by earmarked contributions to the foundation special purpose account

amounted to USD 41.8 million or 60 per cent of the initial budget of USD 69.9 million while that of earmarked technical cooperation activities amounted to USD 116.7 or 74 per cent of the initial budget of USD 157.7 million.

To support implementation, a percentage of direct earmarked expenditure under foundation special purpose and technical cooperation is used for indirect programme support activities such as procurement, recruitment, and financial management of the programmes; the amount used for programme support activities amounted to USD 12.0 million against an initial annual budget of USD 13.2 million.

In terms of new income acquired, UN-Habitat secured new income amounting to USD 182.6 million. Out of the earmarked income of USD 160.9 million that was secured, 30 per cent was for global normative programmes and 70 per cent for technical cooperation activities at country and regional level. Earmarked income for normative work increased by 35 per cent while that of technical cooperation activities declined very slightly by 3 per cent.

Programmatic Highlights

Implementation of the 2018 work programme and budget proceeded well, and significant programmatic achievements were realised, demonstrating UN-Habitat's expertise, leadership role or active participation in the area of sustainable urbanization. This section only highlights some of the key results for each subprogramme, while the more detailed information is provided under Section 02.

Subprogramme 1

Six urban legislation reform processes that are supporting these countries in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda were concluded in Bolivia, Haiti, Nepal, Palestine, Vietnam and Saudi Arabia. In Bolivia, the Government strengthened over 100 national and subnational legal instruments related to urban planning, public space, land economy, construction, governance and sectoral regulations using UN-Habitat's Planning Legislation Assessment Framework. In Nepal, the Parliament enacted two important pieces of legislation: Housing Rights Related Act 2018 and Land Related (7th Amendment)

Act 2018. In Palestine, legislation on land use was revised and evaluated to verify how functional and appropriate they are with respect to the existing situation of each targeted localities.

The UrbanLex database continued to be UN-Habitat's principal means of collecting and openly sharing primary information on urban law. In 2018, the database had almost 1650 legal instruments from 68 countries across many thematic areas and provides direct access to the largest collection of legal instruments.

UN-Habitat's normative and operational work through the Global Land Tool Network partners made a significant impact on tenure security for a growing number of families and communities. Security of tenure was improved for more than 27,000 households in Uganda, Zambia and the Philippines, through the Global Land Tool Network with 2,611 occupancy certificates issued to beneficiaries in Uganda and Zambia in 2018. To-date, the GLTN programme has benefitted more than 300,000 households in Uganda, Zambia, Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Philippines, Namibia and Iraq.

UN-Habitat developed the UN systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements in close consultation with other agencies in the United Nations system, as required by its Governing Council resolution 26/4 of 2017. The Guidelines which are to be considered by the UN-Habitat Assembly in May 2019, provide local authorities in collaboration with national and subnational governments, with a standard in responding to the challenges of delivering urban safety and security in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda.

Subprogramme 2

Three National urban policies in Argentina, Malawi and Serbia were approved in 2018, and development of others is ongoing in India, Iran and Myanmar. The first global Report on National Urban Policy was released, along with five regional reports for Africa, The Arab States and Asia and the Pacific and OECD.

Through its planning and design Lab, UN-Habitat supported 54 cities in 23 countries, completed plans and designs for 44 cities and started work in 10 cities in 2018. In total, from 2014 to 2018, the LAB has assisted 93 cities in 35 countries.

Through the Global Programme on Public Space, over 500,000 people benefitted from 6 public space designs implemented in Gaza (Palestine) benefitting over 100,000 people; in Dhaka (Bangladesh), for the first time, girls and women had full access to a formerly exclusively male space; Kalobeyei (Kenya), provides the first structured public space to a settlement of 60,000 people, including refugees; in Pristina (Kosovo), women and disabled gained access to a friendly public space; and in San Pedro Mixtepec (Mexico), a wetland was recovered for public use.

16 cities strengthened their climate adaptation and mitigation plans, while Vulnerability Assessments and Climate Action Planning took place in 189 villages spread over 8 districts in Lao PDR and 12 coastal communities in West Africa (Ghana and Côte d' Ivoire).

Subprogramme 3

Partner cities in Afghanistan and Somalia have witnessed a significant rise in municipal revenue which is contributing to improved provision of basic services. In Afghanistan, introduction of systemic reforms to the safayi system (levy on property) have made the system more transparent, reliable, and comprehensive resulting in increased local revenue generation.

By the end of 2018, there was a significant increase in municipal revenue, with 8 cities having USD 5.49 Million safayi fees paid to municipalities. In Somalia continued technical support to municipalities in 17 districts has resulted in steady increase in local revenue. For example, by the end of 2018, a 7 per cent increase was recorded in Hargeisa.

18,156 youths in seven countries (Colombia, Kenya, Guinea, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) had their capacities on employment and improved livelihoods enhanced through programmes such as the One Stop Youth Resource Centers.

Normative tools aimed at improving the capacity of partner cities in local economy and increasing municipal local revenue

generation were developed during the reporting period. They include: i) Developing public spaces and land values; ii) Economic benefits of the territorial strategy in the Zapopan Municipality, Mexico; iii) Local economic development, micro-enterprise and crime reduction: lessons from Cali, Colombia; iv) Municipal finance in India; v) Sub-national borrowing in Africa; and (vi) Safayi Guidelines included in the Safayi Operational Manual;

Subprogramme 4

UN-Habitat continued to support countries to increase access to urban basic services, as well as catalyzing investments into urban basic services.

Over 1.2 million people benefitted from improved access to water and sanitation, through UN-Habitat-supported operational demonstration projects in Egypt, Nepal, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka. This includes 500,000 beneficiaries from the Global Sanitation Fund programme in Nepal, 270,000 including 55,027 school children

beneficiaries from the WASH Programme in Ghana, 4,738 from the WASH project in Lao PDR, 177,135 from the WASH Projects in Myanmar as well as 120,000 beneficiaries in Jordan.

USD 22.2 million worth of investments was catalyzed for expanding access to urban basic services through UN-Habitat programmes in partner countries in 2018. This includes USD 20,852,000 from the EU for Iraq; USD 403,000 from Coca Cola and USD 477,000 from Replenish Africa Initiative for Egypt; USD 21,235 from the Danish Embassy for bicycle stands; USD 418,000 from the Nordic Climate Fund for Lao PDR; and USD 900,000 for Somalia, from the EU.

UN-Habitat produced the following normative tools: Guidelines and Minimum Standards for Resilient WASH Facilities in Flood-prone Areas in Ghana; Streets for Walking and Cycling – Designing for Safety, Accessibility and Comfort in African Cities.

A community managed water kiosk in Mtwapa, Kenya. ©KirstenMilhahn/UN-Habitat

Subprogramme 5

In 2018, UN-Habitat continued its support in the implementation of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme in some 40 countries and 190 cities, working to improve living conditions of more than 5 million slum dwellers.

36 countries participating in the Third International Tripartite Conference on Transforming African, Caribbean and Pacific regions cities renewed their commitment to improving the living conditions of slum dwellers by facilitating exploration of innovative financing and diverse partnerships at country, city and community levels.

In 2018, UN-Habitat worked with Bahrain to produce a National Housing Profile and made recommendations for the review of the National Housing Policy and Strategy 2022 which makes delivery of social housing services more sustainable. The government is currently implementing a large-scale housing programme and has committed to build 40,000 housing units for Bahraini families. Conditions of eligibility have been revised in some of the housing programmes, giving the opportunity for women to jointly own houses, a major step towards fulfilment of the right to adequate housing, especially for women.

The Kenya Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policy was adopted by Kenya's National Assembly in 2018, setting guidelines on mainstreaming slum prevention and upgrading within the national development agenda.

Subprogramme 6

About 139 cities in 27 countries used the City Resilience Profiling Tool in measuring and strengthening their resilience to multi-hazard impacts, including those associated with climate change by the end of 2018. Additionally, City Resilience Action Planning tool (CityRAP) is being used in more than 25 cities in 21 countries in Africa, to assess city vulnerabilities and prepare action plans for city-resilience building.

Over 4,000 cities had joined the *"Making Cities Resilient Campaign",* an initiative chaired by UN-Habitat, by the end of 2018, with commitments to make their cities resilient to disaster risks.

In 2018, 35,200 school children from four flood-prone provinces in Mozambique benefitted from the resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation of 450 school classrooms and water and sanitation facilities damaged by floods.

In Iraq, about 6,000 people benefitted when their 1,165 war-damaged houses and basic secondary infrastructure were rehabilitated while 170,000 people in Sudan benefited from the upgrading and rehabilitation of the existing health facilities and basic health services in Darfur.

Subprogramme 7

539 cities in 14 countries, globally are implementing the City Prosperity Initiative enabling them to undertake diagnostics, create baselines, propose targets and based on information, produce actions plans and policy decisions through participatory mechanisms.

336 urban observatories are using UN-Habitat tools, methods and data in monitoring urban trends and conditions at national and local authority levels. 10 new urban observatories joined in 2018.

65 national statistical offices are using UN-Habitat tools and guidelines producing urban data and indicators that support monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. 13 partner national statistical offices joined the network in 2018.

In 2018, UN-Habitat supported national and city governments to monitor and report on the progress made in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and SDG 11 and produced two key reports, the Quadrennial Report on Implementation of the New Urban Agenda and for the High-Level Political Forum 2018.

Inhabitants of slums and informal settlements from across Thailand participating at World Habitat Day ©UNESCAP

Capacities of decision makers and technical cadre from 52 countries and 87 cities was enhanced to support the localization of the SDG11 in cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America, in partnership with renowned training institutes. About 166,000 people in more than 65 countries in 2018 viewed UN-Habitat's Global Urban Lectures

Mainstreaming Cross-cutting issues

UN-Habitat continued to mainstream the four "cross-cutting issues", namely, climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth through its normative and operational interventions that promote socially and environmentally sustainable cities and aim to leave no one behind. Some independent evaluations concluded in 2018, highlighted in Sri Lanka, for example, that community development councils had provided women in the plantation sector with safe and proper childcare. The Global Land Tool Network evaluation noted that, an estimated 2,259 people had improved their knowledge of pro-poor and gender-responsive land tools and approaches through the implementation of 101 capacity-development initiatives.

Advocacy and Partnerships

In 2018, UN-Habitat provided effective communication and advocacy and mobilized partners for the World Urban Forum and the Urban October events, among other important events. The Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 7 to 13 February 2018 under the theme "Cities 2030 – Cities for All: Implementing the New Urban Agenda". The Forum attracted over 24,000 diverse participants from 164 countries. The participants shared knowledge and experiences on sustainable urbanization and human settlements and encouraged localization and scaling up of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda as an accelerator for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Urban October

The year 2018 was the most successful Urban October on record with over 320 events highlighting various aspects of urbanization taking place in 82 cities in 51 countries during the month. Urban October celebrations in 2018 began on with World Habitat Day on 1st October with the theme of Municipal Solid Waste Management, with the global observance co-hosted by the Government of Kenya in Nairobi. UN-Habitat launched the *"Waste Wise Cities Campaign"* on World Habitat Day to assist Member States in making their cities clean and healthy.

The World Cities Day global observance was celebrated in Liverpool, United Kingdom on 31 October with the theme *"Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities"* and also in 66 cities around the world.

Evaluation

In 2018, UN-Habitat's carried several evaluations to assess the results being achieved through its interventions, thus facilitating accountability to stakeholders, and contributing to organizational learning and overall organizational performance management. Improvement was noted in the number and quality of evaluations conducted, with 15 evaluations undertaken in 2018, compared with only seven in 2017.

In terms of follow up on recommendations, the establishment of an online Evaluation Recommendation Tracking System to systematically monitor the implementation of recommendations has been very useful. By December 2018, UN-Habitat was tracking implementation of 321 recommendations, about 275 (87 per cent) of accepted evaluation recommendations were implemented within the planned time, 38 (12 per cent) were in progress, and 4 (1.2 per cent) had not started. A UN-Habitat Evaluation Manual that presents the evaluation methodology, processes, norms and standards of UN-Habitat was launched in April 2018 and supports improved capacity in evaluation.

Audit

The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the United Nations Board of Auditors, respectively, perform the internal audit and the external audit functions of UN-Habitat. In 2018, 10 audits were undertaken, 6 of them on country operations. About 23 audit recommendations were issued in 2018, of which 4 were considered critical by the external auditors. This is higher than normal, mainly because more country operations were audited, and these countries tend to carry a higher risk than normal operations.

In terms of implementation of audit recommendations in 2018, the overall implementation rate was 76 per cent (against a target of 85 per cent), which is 11 per cent below the target, mainly due to constraints in availability of financial resources.

UN-Habitat in 2018

JAN

**Arrival of new
Executive Director**
Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif

**The Executive Director
charts a new Vision
and Mission for
UN-Habitat. VISION:**

"A better quality of life for
all in an urbanizing world"

FEB

APR

**9th World
Urban Forum**
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur Declaration
2030 on cities

**Dubai International
Award for Best
Practices**
10 winners

MAY

**Preparation of
Strategic Plan
2020-2025
commenced**

WUF9 **23,000+**
participants

The Report on the
Implementation of the
New Urban Agenda (the
Quadrennial Report) is
presented to the General
Assembly.

IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

**Changing
for Impact**

Vision

Leadership

Impact

Processes

Funding

Team

Collaboration

Twelfth Asia–Pacific City Summit

Attended by representatives from 32 cities in sixteen countries. "Fukuoka Declaration" adopted

Celebrations through over 320 events in 82 cities in 51 countries

Urban OCTOBER

Strategic Plan 2020-2025 endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives

World Habitat Day
World Cities Day
Waste Wise Cities Campaign

JUL

OCT

DEC

HLPF 2018
HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2018
9 - 18 JULY

Arrival of Deputy Executive Director, Victor Kisob
Leading UN-Habitat's alignment to UN reforms

Goal 11 Synthesis Report
Tracking Progress Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements: SDG Synthesis Report.

A New Governance Structure for UN-Habitat was Established by the General Assembly

01

Urban Legislation, Land and Governance

Key achievements in 2018

Local and national authorities and partners were strengthened through capacity building, access to tools and databases as well as technical assistance of operational projects.

Six urban legislation reform processes that are supporting countries in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda were concluded in **Bolivia, Haiti, Nepal, Palestine, Vietnam and Saudi Arabia.**

UrbanLex database expanded by **1,060 legal** instruments in 2018. The database now has 1650 legal instruments from **68 countries** across many thematic areas and provides direct access to the largest collection of legal instruments. The database is UN-Habitat's principal means of collecting and openly sharing primary information on urban law, supporting member states and other stakeholders in urban legislation reform processes.

UN-Habitat developed and tested a Slum Upgrading Legal Assessment Tool that allows city managers to make a quick qualitative legal assessment of prospects for upgrading slums in line with SDG 11 and the New urban agenda.

Security of tenure has been improved for more than **27,000 households** in **Uganda, Zambia** and the **Philippines**, through the Global Land Tool Network with 2,611 occupancy certificates issued to beneficiaries in Uganda and Zambia. To-date, the GLTN programme has benefitted more than 300,000 households in **Uganda, Zambia, Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Philippines, Namibia** and **Iraq.**

UN-Habitat is contributing to improved urban safety and crime prevention for children. For example safety and access to public spaces has improved in five cities benefiting over **662,000** boys and girls: Lima (**Peru**) 340 girls, EL Cairo (**Egypt**) 2,377 beneficiaries; Kampala (**Uganda**) 3,810 beneficiaries, New Delhi (**India**) 645,428 girls; and Hanoi (**Vietnam**) 11,000 beneficiaries, ;

Over 49,000 people are enjoying increased safety in **Sudan** as a result of improved crime prevention through construction of 7 police and prosecutor's offices.

Budget performance

Figure 1.1 shows the budget for urban land, legislation and governance activities in the 2018-2019 work programme amounted to USD 61.5 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 30.8 million for 2018. The annual implementation level of USD 35.3 million exceeded the budget by 15 percent while new income acquired in 2018 amounted to USD 28.6 million or 93 percent of the annual target; a good performance for the subprogramme.

Figure 1.1: Urban Land, Legislation and Governance – budget, income and expenditure (USD Millions)

A local resident identifies her parcel of land @UN-Habitat

Introduction

The role of the Urban Legislation Land and Governance, Subprogramme 1 of the Strategic Plan 2014–2019, is to promote equitable sustainable development through enabling legislation, increased access to land, and stronger systems of decentralized governance for improved safety and service delivery. This focus area contributes to the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals 1,2,3,4,5,7,9,11,16 and 17.

Many developing countries lack effective and gender sensitive urban land development, governance and management mechanisms, urban legislative frameworks and governance institutions and systems. Without these, there can be no effective urban planning, thus limiting economic growth and development. In addition, urban legislation in many countries is not appropriate as it does not effectively support the development of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities. Moreover, in many developed and developing countries, existing urban governance models are inappropriate for urban centres that have grown beyond their boundaries and coalesced into large metropolitan regions.

To address these inefficiencies, UN-Habitat provides policy and operational support for governments and cities on urban legislation, land, governance and safety. In this respect, UN-Habitat helps governments to identify areas requiring reform, development and adoption of laws and legal frameworks that effectively regulate urbanization issues such as land use, urban planning, taxation, housing, basic services, infrastructure and safety. Building on the experience of the Global Land Tool Network and in partnership with local government organizations, UN-Habitat addresses existing urban land problems as requested by member States.

"
This was our land, it belonged to us, we had built our house on it. UN-Habitat helped us to get occupancy certificates confirming that we are the residents living here. God bless them.

Qunaf Qasim, Yazidi Returnee.
"

Progress and Results in 2018

EA 1: Increased capacity of local and national governments and other Habitat Agenda partners to implement urban legislation in the areas of urban extension, densification, urban planning and finance.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below:

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of consultative reform processes to improve urban extension, densification, urban planning and finance with the technical support of UN–Habitat.

In response to inadequate legislation and institutions regulatory frameworks that affect urban development and management, in 2018, UN-Habitat continued to support local and national governments and Habitat Agenda partners develop adequate relevant legislation, frameworks, tools and guides as well as enhancing their capacities.

Figure 1.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 1.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 1.2: Progress made towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Consultative legal reforms	21	25	28	32	38	36

Box 1.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Consultative legal reforms (6)	Consultative legal reform processes in (**Nepal, Vietnam, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Haiti** and **Bolivia**) were concluded in 2018, thus improving urban extension, densification, urban planning and finance.

Global achievements

The UrbanLex database continues to be UN-Habitat's principal means of collecting and openly sharing primary information on urban law. In 2018, over 1,000 legal instruments were added. The database now contains almost 1650 legal instruments from 68 countries across many thematic areas, thus providing direct access to the largest collection of legal instruments organized and summarized according to urban priorities.

UN-Habitat developed and tested a Slum Upgrading Legal Assessment Tool, a legal review methodology which allows city managers and other stakeholders to conduct a quick qualitative review of laws and regulations related to water and sanitation, land planning, housing and financing, to assess the prospects of upgrading the slums in line with SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda.

In collaboration with UNEP, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Commonwealth secretariat, UN-Habitat continued to work on the development of a law and climate change toolkit, which will serve as a global resource to help countries to put in place the legal frameworks necessary for the effective national implementation of the Paris Agreement and of nationally determined contributions.

Country achievements

In 2018, about 24 National and local government officials and international civil servants from (**Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Iran, Kenya, Lebanon, Palestine and Somalia**), had their knowledge and skills enhanced on evidence-based law making, basic drafting principles and understanding quality criteria in legislation. Technical capacities of the metropolitan institutions in **Colombia** have been strengthened on metropolitan governance and metropolitan management.

These improved capacities have enabled them to be aware of the need for improved legislation, and equipped them with the capacity to initiate, develop and implement legal instruments in their cities and countries.

In 2018, six legal reform processes were concluded in **Bolivia, Haiti, Nepal, Palestine, Vietnam and Saudi Arabia** while in five countries (**Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Kenya and Mexico**) their urban legislation is either under consideration for adoption by their approving bodies, under public consultation or in the process of being updated with UN-Habitat support. The Parliament of **Nepal** enacted two important pieces of legislation: (1) Housing Rights Related Act 2018, and (2) Land Related (Seventh Amendment) Act 2018.

The Government of **Bolivia** has used the Planning Legislation Assessment Framework, a specialized UN-Habitat methodology, to strengthen over 100 national and subnational legal instruments related to urban planning, public space, land economy, construction, governance and sectoral regulations. The legislation on land use in **Palestine** has been revised and evaluated to verify how functional and appropriate they are with respect to the existing situation of each targeted localities.

UN-Habitat supported the regulation of the Metropolitan Areas National Law for **Colombia**, through the drafting of a National Decree Proposal formulated in a participatory process with Colombian metropolitan institutions. In 2018, the Government of **Ecuador** developed and introduced, an Organic Law of Land Use, Management and Territorial Organization with implementation tools that allow adequate planning systems to develop and manage cities in line with principles of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.

In **Egypt**, UN-Habitat concentrated its efforts on changing of legislation related to housing funds and provided technical support which led to a number of updates of the draft bills.

A Land owner with her certificate of occupancy, Zambia @UN-Habitat

The Slum Upgrading Legal Assessment Tool, was field tested for the first time in **Kenya** to support the drafting of the Kenya Slum Upgrading Bill.

During late 2017 and early 2018, Zapopan in **Mexico**, updated two important planning instruments; the Partial Plans and the Local Program for Ecological Management in line with UN-Habitat recommendations regarding their alignment to the international and national agendas, population growth projections, densification, urban land reserves, among others. In **Vietnam**, the Ministry of Construction submitted the Law on Urban Development Management to the National Assembly Standing Committee for its consideration. The law has been launched for public consultation, with support from UN-Habitat and development partners. The draft law stipulates: the management of an urban system; development of urban areas as planned; investment for urban development; financial resources for urban development; and state management and the involvement of organizations and individuals in urban development.

Figure 1.3: Progress made towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Local authorities	3	5	6	8	9	12
National authorities	4	5	5	8	9	12
Habita Agenda Partners	6	7	7	16	20	25

EA 2: Increased capacity of partner local and national governments and other Habitat Agenda partners to implement programmes that improve security of tenure for all, including for vulnerable groups, women, young people and indigenous people

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement indicated in Figure 1.3

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of programmes to improve security of tenure for all, including vulnerable groups, women, young people and indigenous people, implemented by partner local and national governments and other Habitat Agenda partners.

Figure 1.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 1.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 1.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018	
Local authorities (1)	In partnership with Lusaka City Council (**Zambia**), more than 18,000 households in Kanyama informal settlement have had their data collected, capturing more than 12,000 properties in the settlement
National authorities (1)	The Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives (MoALMC), in **Nepal** has a refined draft national Land Policy, which was prepared following a series of consultations at various levels i.e., local, provincial and national level.
Habitat Agenda Partners (4)	HURADEC and Kadaseter International (**Nepal**); The Philippines Alliancein (**Philippines**), UCBC (Université Chrétienne Bilingue du **Congo- DRC**):

Global Achievements

UN-Habitat's normative and operational intervention and support to local and national governments and partners has been a game changer with regards to improving land and property rights. Partnership with the 80-member Global Land Tool Network which is facilitated by UN-Habitat, has significantly increased UN-Habitat's ability to address urban land problems and seize opportunities to increase security of tenure using a wide array of tools, especially the Social Tenure Domain Model. This tool

has made a huge difference in among other things, enumeration, profiling and mapping of informal urban settlements and undocumented land to increase tenure security in both urban and rural areas. The fit-for-purpose land administration tool is being widely used to support land information systems in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Laos, Nepal, the Philippines, Uganda** and **Zambia**.

The transformations that are taking place, are partly due to strengthened capacities of

local and national authorities, partners and even potential beneficiaries. The Global Land Tool Network provided training on land-based financing to more than 100 mayors and local authorities to strengthen the land-based revenue streams of local governments. The Network organized the first Arab land conference, in Dubai in 2018, in collaboration with the World Bank, the Dubai Land Department and the Arab Union of Surveyors, to launch an Arab Land Governance Initiative to foster peace, development and social equity in the Arab region.

In April 2018, the Global Land Tool Network partners adopted a new strategy to address land tenure security and governance in the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The strategy is meant to scale up good practices and their impact to support land reform during the period 2018–2030. To kick start the implementation of the new strategy, partners, donors and development partners gathered at an induction steering committee meeting in February 2019 in Stockholm at the headquarters of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

Country and local achievements

During 2018, land interventions covered 8 countries (**Uganda, DRC, Zambia**, **Nepal, Kenya, the Philippines, Laos, Sudan**); and 5 cities (**Kampala, Beni, Lusaka, Mombasa, Manila**); and collaborated with 28 institutions at global, regional, national and local levels. The work of UN-Habitat on National Land policy is intended to improve access to land, allocation of titles, security of tenure and management of land resources. Four countries **Nepal, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo** and **Zambia** have draft National land policies intended to provide a framework for managing land resources and ensuring tenure security.

In **Nepal** the draft National Land Policy has been refined and a Fit-For-Purpose Land Administration Strategy for **Nepal** has been developed to support the implementation of the national land policy. Relocation and integrated settlement plans intended for post-earthquake recovery were validated in Boshimpa, Phashmi and Dihi of Jilu villages destroyed by the earthquake in 2015.

A total of **706 households** comprising 3500 people benefited from UN-Habitat's support in **Nepal**. This comprised of 384 households from Bulungkhani, Boshimpa and Jilu who benefitted from improved tenure through relocation to safer sites and access to planned settlements together with improved infrastructure and 322 households in Phulappa who had their land tenure recorded in STDM system. Out of this, 17 households

identified as landless gained access to government land grants, and 47 households received tenancy documents.

Since 2012, security of tenure for more than **7,914** people has significantly improved after receiving recognized documents of ownership or the right of occupation, while 340,981 people in 8 countries had their social, economic and spatial data collected, mapped, enumerated and made available to decision makers/authorities to enhance their prospects for improved tenure security.

About 530 Certificates of Occupancy of Customary Land Occupancy and 30 occupancy licenses were issued in **Zambia.**

In **Uganda**, the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development issued 1,139 certificates of customary ownership in Northern Uganda, and 2,096 received Buganda Land Board cards giving security of tenure on Buganda land in Kampala.

A re-plan of an agricultural area owned by a government trust in **Egypt** was given to 200 peasants and their security of tenure and the rights are assured. About 1200 landowners (including their families) benefitted from improved security of tenure in the projects implemented in 2018.

In Blue Nile State, **Sudan** 16,800 beneficiaries were allocated land together with certificates of titles, while in 5 Darfur States 82,500

beneficiaries have collective land tenure and the concept of continuum land tenure security is in process towards individual land demarcation and recordation.

During 2018, UN-Habitat employed the Social Tenure Domain Model in **Iraq** to map property claims and consolidate these alternative and informal property documentations to expedite land tenure verification through engagement of local community consultations. About **6,000 people** in Mosul had their security of tenure improved by carrying out reconstruction using the local ways and means in which houses are typically built. UN-Habitat initiated an innovative approach which recognized, for example, electricity bills as adequate property documentation, which extended opportunities for improving security of tenure. Another 8,177 people have benefited from improved security of tenure through the Housing Rehabilitation in Sinuni project.

In the **Philippines**, 6,463 informal settlement families were mapped and enumerated in twelve barangays in the cities of Muntinlupa and Davao, representing a population of approximately 11,199 people. UN-Habitat has supported the government of **Afghanistan** to allocate and distribute state land for 77 internally displaced persons in Balkh province.

Since 2012, security of tenure for more than 7,914 people has significantly improved after receiving recognized documents of ownership or the right of occupation, **while 340,981 households in 8 countries** had their social, economic and spatial data collected, mapped, enumerated and made available to decision makers/ authorities to enhance their prospects for improved tenure security.

IMPACT STORY

Increasing tenure security for residents of Lusaka Informal settlements

It was all smiles and excitement on the faces of many residents as they received occupancy licenses during the presentation ceremony in the informal settlement of Kanyama, the largest informal settlement in Lusaka, Zambia. One of the recipients, Florence Kawesha, who could not stop smiling, holding the precious paper, stated "I now have peace of mind knowing that no one can evict me from my property".

Florence is one of many residents of Kanyama to receive the occupancy license as a result of settlement mapping and profiling supported by UN-Habitat through the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) project. Through this project, in partnership with Lusaka City Council, more than 18,000 households have had their data collected, capturing more than 12,000 properties in the settlement. The license issuance ceremony was led by Hon Miles Bwalya Sampa, the Mayor of Lusaka, who described the ceremony as a landmark event in the city's history and commended the Government's efforts to provide security of tenure to the urban poor. He emphasized the challenges of tenure insecurity for residents of peri-urban areas caused by the pressures of unplanned urban growth.

This project is part of Lusaka City Council's efforts to improve tenure security and service provision under its Citywide Slum Upgrading and Prevention Strategy, which combines enhancing tenure security, housing improvement and provision of basic infrastructure. The project implemented pro-poor, gender responsive and fit-for-purpose

Urban settlers receiving 30-year occupancy licenses, Lusaka City, @UN-Habitat

land tools and approaches, such as participatory enumerations and the Social Tenure Domain Model, to undertake the mapping and profiling. Other partners included the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Ministry for Local Government and Housing, Peoples' Process for Housing and Poverty in Zambia, the Lusaka City Council, Kanyama ward leadership and grassroot community members.

Occupancy licenses, although not the same as land titles, guarantee occupancy rights to a dwelling or house on a piece of land for an initial 30-year period. Besides the happy citizens who gained tenure security, the Lusaka City Council will be able to generate extra revenue through property tax collections and to fund more basic infrastructures in the settlement.

IMPACT STORY

Improving access to land and security of tenure: The Yazidi community in Iraq

Following the ISIL/Da'ish offensive on Sinjar district in 2014, over 275,000 people from Mount Sinjar area, including a vast majority of Yazidis, were driven out of their homes and many suffered a worse fate. Abandoned Yazidi settlements were either systematically demolished or seized by ISIL fighters. Some 3,000 homes are thought to have been destroyed or burned down in the sub-district of Sinuni alone. In response, UN-Habitat and the Nineveh Governorate conducted a Housing Rehabilitation pilot project in Sinuni. Through the Expanded Urban Recovery and Housing Rehabilitation Programme, UN-Habitat used the Social Tenure Domain Model (a tool for improving access to land and security of tenure developed jointly with the Global Land Tool Network) to document the history of land parcels and plot boundaries located on satellite maps as well as prepare occupancy certificates. Damaged houses were repaired through a partnership with local contractors employing over 475 people. It conducted community consultations to verify the occupancy claims of the returnees and issued occupancy certificates that are endorsed by local authorities as well as community members.

As a result, Yazidi communities who were subject to protracted discriminatory policies and had no tenure security for decades, had improved access to their land and property. Their land rights were enhanced through issuance of 1,222 occupancy certificates to date. This is evidenced by the approximately 95,000 returnees who by the end of 2018 had benefitted from 1,064 rehabilitated houses and basic infrastructure in 15 towns/villages. The capacity of municipalities for conflict resolution had been

Yazidi returnees outside their rehabilitated house with UN-Habitat officials @UN-Habitat

strengthened as evidenced by their subsequent ability to mediate property grievances, reject unsubstantiated claims and arbitrate disputes involving overlapping claims.

The community-led approach builds self-reliance of local communities and authorities, secures recovery investments that remain with the community, and ensures security and protection, while cultivating a spirit of peace-building and social cohesion among community members. Alongside the technical rehabilitation of damaged houses, the project put a very strong emphasis on the human rights to adequate housing and tenure security as essential

pillars of healthy, functional and resilient communities.

The project was supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Iraq Crisis Response and Resilience Programme and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq. Using appropriate land tools, UN-Habitat has demonstrated in Kosovo, Kenya, Uganda, Philippines and DR Congo that conflict resolution related to land and property can be achieved through policy and operational support.
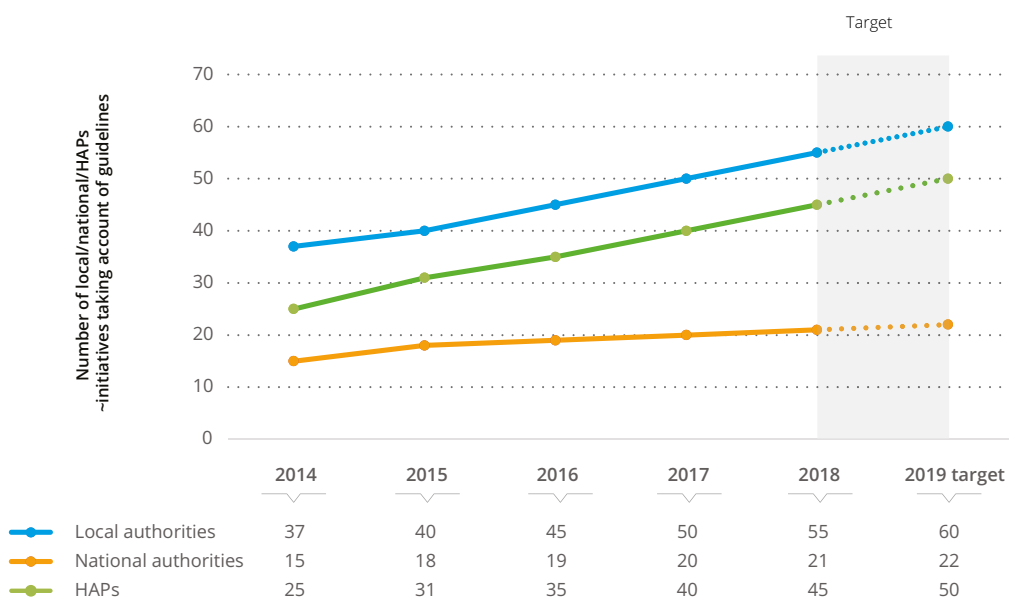
In the **Syrian Arab Republic**, UN Habitat and the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment supported the Syrian General Directorate of Cadastral Affairs to: (1) develop archiving software to support the systematic and transparent restoration and recovery of cadastral records that were damaged during the crisis; (2) deploy technical experts to those cities (Homs and Aleppo) with the greatest damaged records to ensure that host communities, displaced Syrians, and returning internally displaced persons and refugees are able to access their cadastral and property documentation; and (3) establish pilot cadastral service kiosks in secondary cities and/or strategic locations to support returning populations. Approximately, 1.2 million Syrians have directly and/or indirectly benefited from improved access to cadastral services to improve their security of tenure in 2018.

In Sri Lanka, through the national "Catalytic Support to Peacebuilding Programme" funded by the European Union and implemented jointly by UNDP, UNICEF and UN-Habitat, peace building measures are being promoted. UN-Habitat is contributing towards improved access to secure land tenure for 20,000 conflict households in the Northern Province. About 10,000 vulnerable families in the Northern Province Survey Department had their land disputes settled and are waiting survey plans for their individual land plots and 10,264 land parcels had been surveyed. 8,008 legal tenure documents were completed, giving a total of 18,272 households who have improved access to land tenure through this project.

Figure 1.4: Progress made towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Local authorities	37	40	45	50	55	60
National authorities	15	18	19	20	21	22
HAPs	25	31	35	40	45	50

EA 3: Increased capacity of partner local and national governments and other Habitat Agenda partners to develop and adopt or adapt policies, plans and strategies that strengthen decentralized governance and inclusive urban management and safety.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement indicated in Figure 1.4.

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner local and national governments and other Habitat Agenda partners that have developed initiatives that take into account the guidelines on decentralization and access to basic service for all.

Figure 1.4 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 1.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 1.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Local authorities (5)	Cairo (**Egypt**), Ministry of Municipalities, Construction and Housing and Public Works (**Iraq**), **Lebanon,** Ministry of Local Governance **(Palestine), Saudi Arabia** (15 cities)
National authorities (1)	**Cambodia**
HAPs (5)	United Cities and local governments, the Global Taskforce of local and regional governments, the Global Fund for the development of cities, Commonwealth Local Government Forum and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces,

Global achievements

In 2018, UN–Habitat worked with local and national authorities and Habitat Agenda partners to promote adoption of initiatives that consider guidelines on decentralization, in order to increase decentralized governance and urban management, inclusive local governance and empowerment of cities and their citizens, as well as support localization of SDGs through its normative and operational work. UN–Habitat has been providing technical support, strengthening capacities, knowledge and skills and producing and sharing related publications, data and tools.
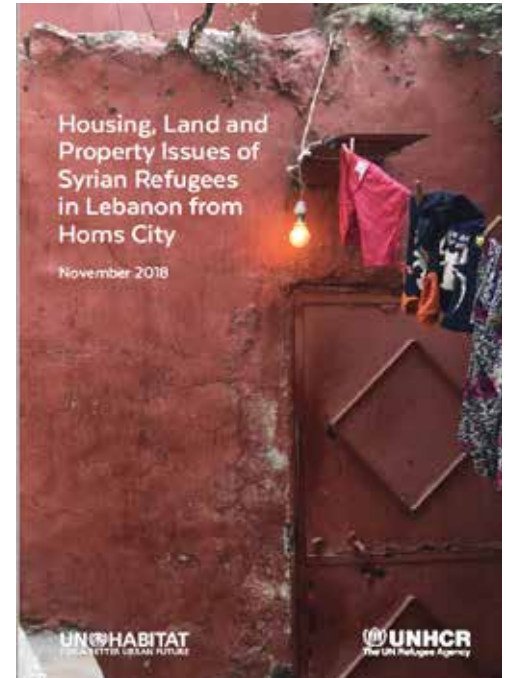
UN–Habitat supports cities across the world to submit their good practices in localizing the SDGs thanks to the platform www.localizingthesdgs.org which has 31,000 registered users who connect from 3,300 different cities.In 2018, UN–Habitat and UNACLA co-organized the **"Sustainable Cities Dialogue"** with representatives from 25 central government officials, that debate together ministers and mayors on the progress versus SDG 11, and the report was submitted to the High-Level Political Forum review of SDG 11.

The Uraia Platform www.uraia.org which has 31,000 registered users who connect from 3,300 different cities, had collected 412 documents, 244 stories and 291 events regarding the local implementation of Agenda 2030. The platform facilitates the transfer of knowledge and expertise regarding the application of SMART technologies to municipal management, and over 100 partners including local governments and their associations.

Country and local achievements

UN–Habitat supported national and local governments adopt and adapt strategies and plans to strengthen decentralized governance. A Municipal Training Officers Programme in the **Syrian Arab Republic** trained 22 municipal staff and officials from the most crisis-impacted cities in **Syria** on relevant legislation and regulations, including those related to decentralization, information management, municipal finance for returning populations, and the local prioritization and coordination of humanitarian and recovery interventions.

In **Egypt,** UN–Habitat supported the development, dissemination and adoption of two guidelines related to managing urban expansion: A guideline on the application of land readjustment in the case of planning city extension areas, and a second guideline on detailed planning with Sakkara training center strengthened the capacities of local and central government officials on the guidelines for several governorates.

Housing, Land and Property Issues of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon from Homs City
November 2018

In 2018, UN-Habitat and UNACLA co-organized the **"Sustainable Cities Dialogue"** with representatives from 25 central government officials, that debate together ministers and mayors on the progress versus SDG 11, and the report was submitted to the High-Level Political Forum review of SDG 11.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES DIALOGUE
URBAN GOVERNANCE AT THE CORE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG 11

Strasbourg, France, 24-25 May 2018

Ma'aloula, Syria. © UN-Habitat

Figure 1.5: Progress made towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Local authorities	90	90	90	100	105	110
National authorities	7	7	7	8	13	10

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner local and national governments that have adopted local crime prevention strategies

Figure 1.5 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 4 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 1.4: Evidence of reported progress in 2018	
Local authorities (5)	**Lima, EL Cairo, Kampala, Delhi and Hanoi** adopted crime prevention strategies
National authorities (5)	**Peru**, **Egypt**, **Uganda**, **India**, and **Vietnam** adopted crime prevention strategies

Global Experiences in
Land Readjustment

Urban Legal Case Studies: Volume 7

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Global achievements

UN-Habitat has incubated the growth and development of the Global Network on Safer Cities in which international partners and cities share responsibilities for the delivery of the network's global vision and agenda, premised on knowledge management and exchange, tool development, capacity building, as well as advocacy and outreach. The Network propelled the establishment of global and regional hubs, focusing on crime and violence prevention good practices from local governments.

Country and local achievements

The Safer Cities for Girls Programme has benefited about 659,145 children in five cities by the end of 2018. In partnership with local authorities, institutions, communities and families, the safety and access to public spaces for girls has been significantly improved which also benefits boys. Youth Clubs for adolescent girls and boys have been established and community managed safe spaces have been established. In **EL Cairo** (Egypt) 2,377 beneficiaries from 33 Girls' Clubs and 11 Boys' Clubs; Hanoi (**Vietnam**) 11,000 direct beneficiaries; New Delhi (**India**), 645,428 girls through 206 safer spaces created in the communities; Kampala (**Uganda**), 3,810 beneficiaries through Youth Clubs for adolescent girls and boys; and 340 girls in Lima (**Peru**) benefited with 12 spaces for Youth Clubs for Girls and Boys located in the communities

02

Urban Planning and Design

Key achievements in 2018

The First Global Report on National Urban Policy was released, along with five regional reports for **Africa, The Arab States, Europe and North America, Latin America** and **the Caribbean** and **Asia and the Pacific,** and are being used to inform NUP process.

UN-Habitat provided technical and policy support to **41 countries** which are at different stages of formulation and implementation of their national urban policies.

Three National urban policies in **Argentina, Malawi** and **Serbia** were approved in 2018, and development of others is ongoing in **India, Iran and Myanmar**

Through its planning and design Lab, UN-Habitat supported **54 cities** in **23 countries**, completed plans and designs for 44 cities and started work in 10 cities in 2018. In total, from 2014 to 2018, the LAB has assisted 93 cities in 35 countries.

The Urban Planning and Design Lab has expanded its partnerships with UNHCR, the World Bank, regional development banks and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Dutch Enterprise Agency.

An Integrated Plan for the West Nile Region, covering three towns in **Uganda** (Arua), **Democratic Republic of Congo** (Kaboko) and **Sudan** (Nebbi). The plan will assist the rapidly growing urban centres in the West Nile region and provide an important spatial framework for humanitarian operations. Refugees from **South Sudan** and **the Democratic Republic of Congo** (DRC), currently form 23 per cent of the regional population, with around 700,000 registered refugees

Over **500,000 people** are benefitting from public space designs implemented in 6 cities in Gaza (**Palestine**) over 100,000 people; Dhaka (**Banglades**h), for the first time, girls and women have full access to a formerly exclusively male space; Kalobeyei (**Kenya**), provided the first structured public space to a settlement of **60,000 people** including refugees; Pristina

(**Kosovo**), women and disabled have access to a friendly public space; and San Pedro Mixtepec (**Mexico**), a wetland was recovered for public use.

189 villages in 8 districts on Lao PDR implemented Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Action Planning

Budget performance

Figure 2.1 shows the budget for urban planning and design activities in the 2018-2019 work programme amounted to USD 71.1 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 35.6 million for 2018. The annual implementation level of USD 37.1 million exceeded the budget by 5 percent while new income acquired in 2018 amounted to USD 40.2 million exceeding the annual target by 13 percent indicating sustained high demand for UN-Habitat's support in this area.

Figure 2.1: Urban Planning and Design – budget, income and expenditure (USD Millions)

Children playing at a public space in Afghanistan @UN-Habitat

Introduction

The Urban Planning and Design, sub-programme 2 of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, supports countries to improve policies, plans and designs for more compact, socially inclusive, safe, integrated, connected, climate change resilient cities. It provides governments at all levels with tested approaches, guidelines and tools to support the management of growth and improved sustainability, efficiency and equity of cities and other human settlements through planning and design. Through this subprogramme, UN-Habitat is contributing to New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal targets 11.2, 11.3, 11.7 and 11.b of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Many cities are facing serious challenges including ineffective development control systems, informal and often chaotic peri-urban expansion, a proliferation of informal housing and livelihood activities, poor connectivity, and traffic congestion and energy inefficiency. Unchecked and unplanned urban sprawl and inequality present perennial concerns in both cities and peri-urban areas. Over 75 per cent of the world's cities grew more unequal over the last 20 years. Social integration is declining, while the reach of urban planning to guide urban development and expansion has diminished over the past 25 years. Cities are increasingly facing environmental challenges, including how to curb rising greenhouse gas emissions and the increasing impacts of anthropogenic climate change. The New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal 11 both recognize the central role of urban planning and design in urban sustainable development.

To address the above challenges, UN-Habitat supports local, subnational and national authorities through improved policies and legislation regarding urban planning and sustainability; increases the capacities of institutions and stakeholders to actively participate in a participatory and inclusive planning; developing and disseminating tools and guides; and engaging in transformative and illustrative urban and territorial planning and design initiatives.

Countries supported by UN–Habitat with National Urban Policy Development

Utilizing Minecraft as a tool for public space design @UN-Habitat

Progress and Results

Expected Accomplishment 1: Improved national urban policies or spatial frameworks for compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities and for planned urban extension adopted by partner metropolitan, subnational and national authorities
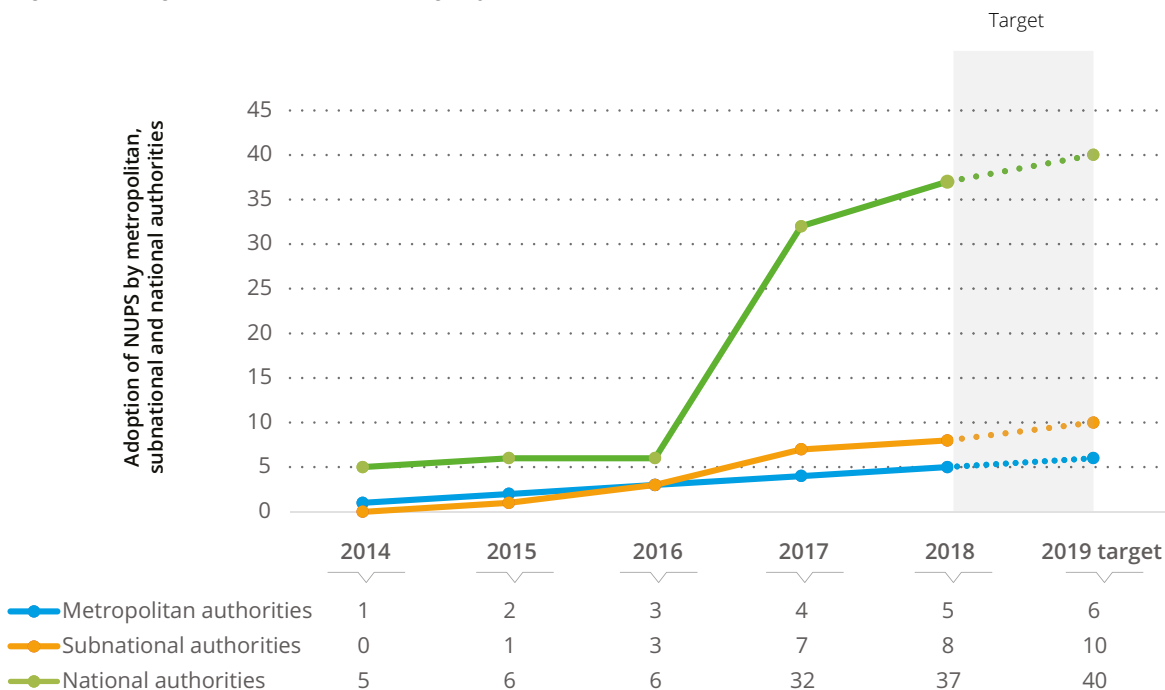
Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below:

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner metropolitan, subnational and national authorities that have adopted national urban policies, or spatial frameworks that support compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities.

There was a significant improvement on urban policy development during 2018 with UN-Habitat responding to increasing demand for support from Member States. By the end of 2018, UN Habitat was providing technical assistance to 41 countries on National Urban Policy development, working in partnership with many local and national authorities and other organizations, and with development partners.

Figure 2.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 2.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 2.2: Progress towards indicator targets from 2014–2018

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Metropolitan authorities	1	2	3	4	5	6
Subnational authorities	0	1	3	7	8	10
National authorities	5	6	6	32	37	40

Box 2.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018	
National authorities (5)	**Argentina, Bolivia, Serbia, India, Malawi**
Subnational authority (1)	**Catalonia** (Spain) approved 'The Catalonia We Want' policy and pledged to support other national and sub-national governments develop their policies
Metropolitan authority (1)	**Douala** (Cameroon) – Metropolitan Observatory under development; and a Metropolitan Authority to be established

Global and regional achievements

UN-Habitat released the first Global Report on National Urban Policy (NUP), in 2018 in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Five regional reports on NUP were also released: **Africa**, The **Arab States**, **Europe** and **North America**, **Latin America** and **the Caribbean**, and **Asia** and **the Pacific.**

At the global normative level, UN-Habitat, OECD and Cities Alliance launched the global National Urban Policy Programme. A series of normative products, tools and guides were also developed to systematize and allow the scaling up of UN-Habitat response to the demand for NUPs. At the regional level, regional programmes on National Urban Policies have been launched and implemented in **Africa**, **Arab States**, and **Asia** and **the Pacific regions.**

Country achievements

At the national level, urban policies in **Argentina, Malawi** and **Serbia** were approved in 2018, while the policy-making process in **India, Iran and Myanmar** was launched. In the **Philippines** UN-Habitat supported the national government to strengthen the National Urban Development and Housing Framework 2016-2022 which was approved by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board in 2017, and rolled out in 2018, along with the localized version of the New Urban Agenda.

Iraq received support to develop its National Urban Strategy framework and Governorate Urban Strategies for selected Governorates to ensure balanced and resilient urban systems in line with Iraq's NDP 2010-2014, Poverty Reduction Strategy, Iraq's Spatial Development Vision, and the New Urban Agenda. UN-Habitat is also supporting the Government of **Jordan**, (Ministry of Municipal Affairs) to formulate a National Urban Policy to better respond to urban needs to promote the positive role of sustainable urbanization in national socio-economic development.

The Government of **Angola** has been receiving assistance with the ongoing formulation of its National Policy for Spatial and Urban Planning. The Ministry of Urban Planning and Housing in **Burkina Faso** developed a new approach to the formulation of multisectoral national urban policy based on the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. **Chad** is developing a national policy document while **Rwanda's** Ministry of Infrastructure is developing a National Strategic Action Plan for the Rwanda Spatial Development Framework. UN-Habitat reviewed the National and Spatial Strategies and regional plans for **Saudi Arabia**.

With funding from the United Nations Development Account, UN-Habitat is working with 4 countries (**Cameroon, Guinea, Nigeria and Tanzania**) to strengthen their policy frameworks and data capacity for an inclusive and integrated development where rural areas are not left behind in the urbanisation process. Meanwhile, the national government of **Bolivia** has been working with UN-Habitat on the ongoing formulation of its National Urban Policy, with the support of the Government of **Sweden**.

Belgrade cityscape
from the Sava river in
Serbia@Shutterstock

IMPACT STORY

Improving equity and shared prosperity in cities and regions – National Urban Policy in Argentina.

Argentina is one of the largest economies in Latin America with vast natural resources in energy and agriculture with 90 per cent of its population living in cities. One of the main challenges is that development is uneven with productive industry and agriculture concentrated in two central provinces and nearly a third of the population living in the capital Buenos Aires, with the rest of the regions and cities lagging behind.

In 2017 and 2018, the Government of Argentina, in partnership with UN-Habitat, decided to transform its model of urbanization and territorial development, recognizing that it has created great economic, social and spatial imbalances.

For one of the most urbanized countries in the world, with 9 out of 10 inhabitants living in urban centres, developing a National Urban

Policy was a solution. The Ministry of Interior, Public Works and Housing, with the support of UN-Habitat, started a national process.

Wide-ranging participatory policy-making actions were adopted and involved many national and local development actors. In 2018, UN-Habitat contributed to the development of operational tools, guidelines and technical documents for the creation of a more balanced territorial development. Working with 18 Provinces and 75 municipalities, the Government adopted its first National Urban Policy.

The result is that for the first time Argentina has a national urban policy that includes cities of all sizes, locations and functions to make sure all of them benefit, and contribute, to national development. As the policy continues to be implemented, rural and urban development

will be gradually transformed and will enhance equity and prosperity to all. The National Urban Policy in Argentina is now a reference for sectoral ministries, civil society and service providers and provides the needed direction and course of action to support urban development. Five pilot cities are already planning to reallocate resources and redirect investments for more equitable development.

Processes on developing, improving and adopting national urban policies are ongoing in more than 40 countries with the support of UN-Habitat and these milestones are contributing to development of more compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities that foster sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change.

Low income area in Argentina @Nico Kaiser

POLÍTICA
NACIONAL URBANA
ARGENTINA

Subnational and metropolitan achievements

UN-Habitat is providing technical assistance to county level physical development plans in **Kenya** for Garissa, Marsabit, Kisumu Makueni, Nyandarua, and Nakuru counties. **Ethiopia** is using a new methodology for preparing regional strategic spatial planning called *The Matrix of Functions* to support nine regions of the country. **Ghana** managed to have a Master Implementation Concept approved by the Spatial Planning Committee and aligned it to the National Development framework and Greater Accra Spatial Development Framework.

UN-Habitat also supported the city of Sinaloa in **Mexico** to develop and finalise its sub-national urban policy and the **Niger State**

Government **Nigeria** to develop its urban policy. In addition, UN-Habitat supported the preparation of the Integrated Plan for the West Nile Region, covering three towns in **Uganda** (Arua), **Democratic Republic of Congo** (Kaboko) and S**udan** (Nebbi). The plan will assist the rapidly growing urban centres in the West Nile Region and provide an important spatial framework for humanitarian operations. Refugees from South Sudan and the **Democratic Republic of Congo** (DRC), currently form 23 per cent of the regional population, with around 700,000 registered refugees.

In collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Office, UN-Habitat supported the Government of **Cameroon** to design and plan the land between Yaoundé-Nsimalen international airport and the capital city and

assisted the metropolitan authority of Douala in **Cameroon** to plan and design the Dibamba river corridor.

In 2018, in **Egypt**, UN-Habitat supported nine governorates (Gharbeia, Aswan, Assiut, Dakahleya, Sharkeya, Damietta, Matrouh and Kafr Al-Sheikh, El Warrak Neighbourhood in Giza Governorate) on urban policies and spatial frameworks.

UN-Habitat's normative and operational interventions on planning and designing as well as on public space are contributing considerably to improved policies, plans and designs that are, in turn, making a positive impact on cities, other human settlements and the citizens.

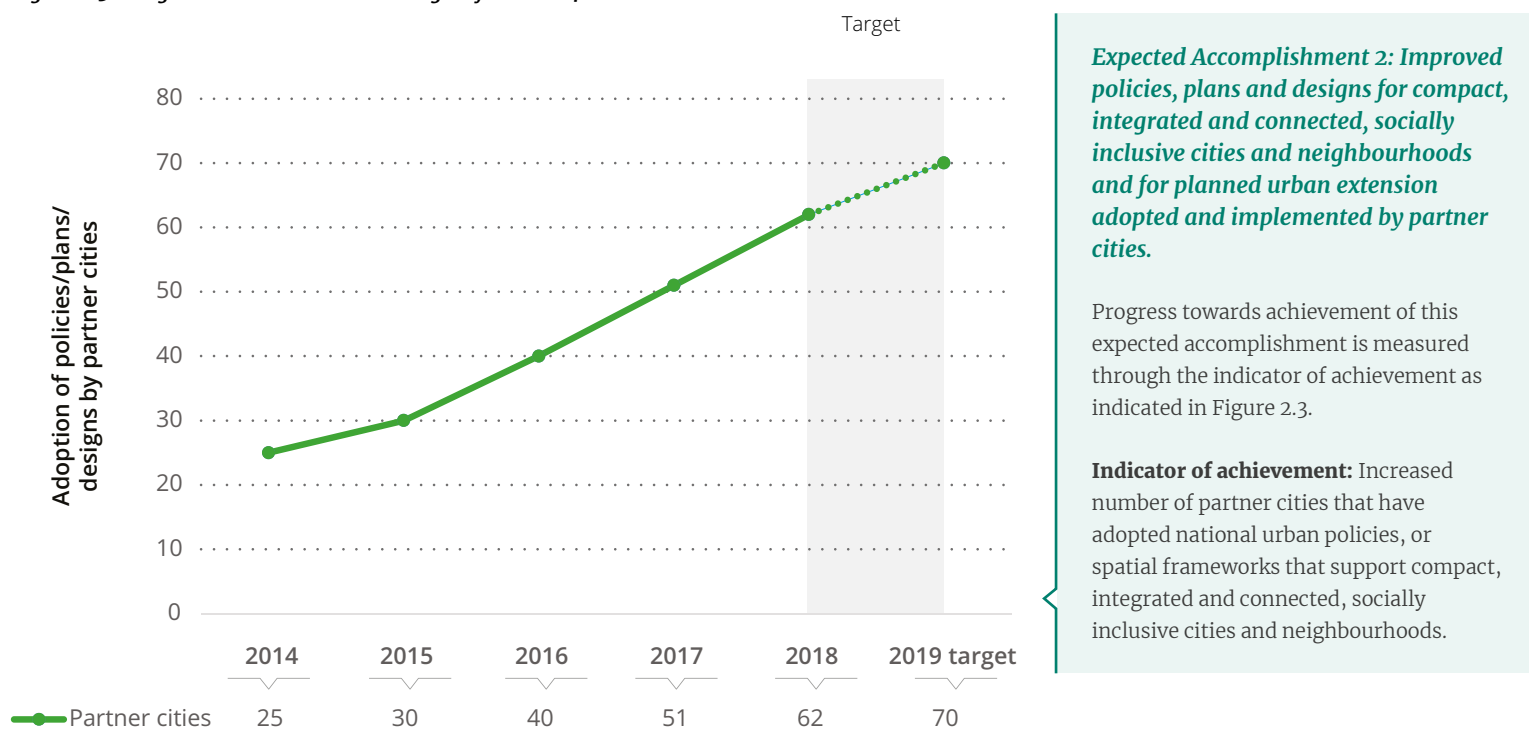*Figure 2.3: Progress towards indicator targets from 2014–2018*

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Partner cities	25	30	40	51	62	70

Expected Accomplishment 2: Improved policies, plans and designs for compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities and neighbourhoods and for planned urban extension adopted and implemented by partner cities.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement as indicated in Figure 2.3.

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner cities that have adopted national urban policies, or spatial frameworks that support compact, integrated and connected, socially inclusive cities and neighbourhoods.

Figure 2.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 2.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 2.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

National and local authorities and partners that have implemented plans or strategies for sustainable urbanization

Capacity strengthened for 52 partner countries that implemented strategies or programmes for sustainable urbanization.

Africa: 15; Asia-Pacific: 13; Arab States: 2; Latin America and the Caribbean: 21; Europe: 1

Global and regional achievements

At the global level, UN-Habitat continued to apply its Urban Planning and Design Lab, an integrative facility for identifying, validating and formulating interventions that respond to Sustainable Development Goals. It is a valuable resource that enables internal integration of substantive contribution to the planning process and facilitates collaboration with many development partners.

The Lab has expanded its partnerships with UN organisations (e.g. UNHCR), the World Bank and regional development banks. The **United Kingdom** Foreign and Commonwealth Office has engaged the Lab to support its UK Future Cities Programme in 19 cities across 10 countries in 2018, resulting in the definition of over 30 urban transformative projects. The Lab was also engaged by the Dutch Enterprise Agency to support the Water as Leverage Programme in 3 countries. The Global Public Space Programme continued to develop its innovative participatory tools and to engage communities, youth and women in public space design processes and concluded designs in over 17 sites.

The Public Space Assessment Tool fills an enormous gap in the knowledge of cities and enables the management of an undervalued public asset. The assessment contributes both to global monitoring of SDG11.7 indicator and to the development of local strategies and interventions. A city-wide public space strategy was developed in Wuhan, **China**. A global Guide on City-wide Public Space Strategy is under development. In November 2018, the SDG 11.7.1 Indicator methodology was also approved. Meta-data for computation of 11.7.1 and training module for National Statistical Commissions were developed in collaboration with Research and Capacity Development Branch.

A new approach to refugees' settlements, piloted in Kalobeyiei, **Kenya** is informing a collaboration with UNHCR in Cox's Bazaar, **Bangladesh** on the use of urban planning approaches and solutions to improve refugees' conditions and enhance integration with host communities, and facilitate coordination of support to both. It is also being translated into global guidance.

Country and city achievements

Over 500,000 people benefitted from the adoption and implementation of public space designs in 6 sites and activities continued in 26 other sites. UN-Habitat's interventions on public space benefitted 100,000 people in Gaza (**Palestine**); in Dhaka (**Bangladesh**), for the first time, girls and women gained full access to a formerly exclusively male space. In Kalobeyei (**Kenya)**, the first structured public space was provided in a settlement of 60,000 people; in Pristina (**Kosovo**), a women and disabled friendly public space was designed; and in San Pedro Mixtepec (**Mexico**), a wetland was recovered for public use.

The Public Space Assessment Tool, which enables cities to assess the situation of public space through a detailed survey conducted through smartphones, was applied in over 10 sites, with assessments concluded in Addis Ababa, **(Ethiopia**), Kisumu, (**Kenya**), Johannesburg, (**South Africa**) and in 2 districts of Wuhan, (**China**).

UN-Habitat's People-Oriented Urban Public Space Programme for **China** produced significant results in 2018. Wuhan **City** and UN-Habitat hosted the Wuhan Placemaking Week in December 2018, which attracted more than 300 participants from **China** and over 100 international participants and speakers. In the past 3 years, the Wuhan Land Use and Urban Spatial Planning Research Centre, together with the Wuhan Planning and Design Institute, **China**, and several other partners continued working on heritage, urban renewal and regeneration. Over 1000 citizens have been engaged in participatory public space design processes in 2019.

At the metropolitan level, participatory planning processes were carried out in **Haiti** (Les Cayes, Jeremie, Beaumont and Dame-Marie) and **Comoros** (Moroni). These have been concluded and resulted in a new generation of city plans that have been submitted for approval. They provide essential frameworks for guiding future development, addressing backlog of services and infrastructure, and increasing resilience to environmental and climate events. As part of the Municipal Governance Support Programme, UN-Habitat supported the government of **Afghanistan** to substitute the traditional master plans with Strategic Municipal Action Plans and participatory

City of Bucaramanga, Colombia @ Shutterstock

processes have taken place in 5 target cities. UN-Habitat also helped with street addressing and coding in **Kabul** and this has been approved by the relevant authorities. UN-Habitat is working with **Nepal** government to revitalize heritage settlements in the Kathmandu Valley, where 90 per cent of traditional houses were damaged by a recent earthquake. A Heritage Settlement Recovery Plan of Bungamati is being drafted. UN-Habitat has undertaken participatory spatial

planning projects in six marginalized and heavily affected Municipalities in the Gaza Strip, with five projects were completed in **Abasan Al-Kabeira, Beit Lahia, Wadi Salqa, Al-Naser** and **Al-Musader.**

The Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga (**Colombia**) and its four municipalities have adopted the proposal for a Master Plan, drafted with the technical assistance of UN-Habitat, as a legal instrument to improve

the management and planning of its border zones.

The five-year **Future Saudi (Arabia) Cities** Programme, concluded in 2018 and the development of 17 city profile reports and 3 demonstration projects through engagement with multiple stakeholders, led to specific recommendations for planning and urban governance reforms.

IMPACT STORY

Strengthening refugee and host community cohesion and long-term development through integrated spatial planning – Kalobeyei New Settlement, Turkana, Kenya

The global rise in conflict and consequent refugee migration has stretched local and national governments in affected countries, and significantly expanded the need and scope of humanitarian-assistance. Kenya receives a large number of refugees due to its stable political and economic environment. However, the increase in refugee populations has seen increased conflicts between refugees and host communities in recent years. With the population of the Kakuma camps exceeding 100,000, coupled with the urgent need to resettle refugees from the closing Dadaab camps, there was a need for a new settlement that could bridge the gap between humanitarian and development stages.

In June 2015, the County Government of Turkana allocated 1,500 hectares of land 15km west of Kakuma camps to UNHCR and the Department of Refugee Affairs, for implementing the Kalobeyei New Settlement to host a target population of 60,000 people. UN-Habitat, with support from the Government of Japan, has undertaken the spatial planning and infrastructure component of the new settlement, and piloted a new planning approach shifting from a 'camp' to an integrated settlement, complete with social and physical infrastructure and diverse economic opportunities. Working closely with a wide range of partners (UNHCR, Lokado, Peace Winds Japan, AAR Japan, NRC, Core Kenya),

Participatory meeting with Kalobeyei town community for introducing the project in Turkana, Kenya 2016 © Julius Mwelu/UN-Habitat

the Urban Planning and Design Lab developed the Kalobeyei New Settlement Advisory Development Plan, which is the guiding document for all agencies in the field.

The Kalobeyei New Settlement, which now hosts about 60,000 people, has witnessed reduced conflict between host and refugee communities, a better environment for livelihood creation and opportunities for vocational training in sustainable energy production, infrastructure construction and management. About 200 households or 1000 people benefitted directly, 500 women and youth in refugee and host

communities and 100 community leaders were empowered with technical skills. Using the Block by Block methodology, UN-Habitat engaged residents from both communities, especially the youth, in defining public space design, use and equipment, and they now have learning and community public spaces. The Integrated Kalobeyei approach, with its intended integration of both physical and economic development is proving to be an example for development policies in attaining prosperity, as well as other protracted humanitarian crisis contexts.

Expected Accomplishment 3: Improved policies, plans and strategies that contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change adopted by partner city, subnational and national authorities.
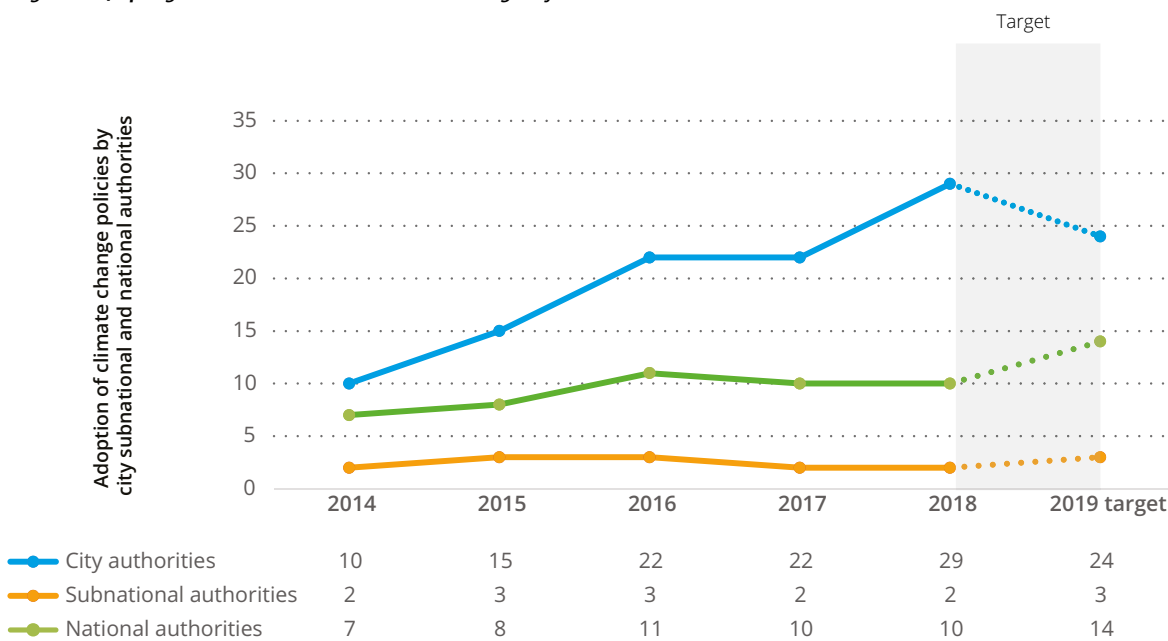
Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the following indicator of achievement:

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner **city, sub-national and national authorities** that have adopted and implemented policies, plans or strategies that contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

UN-Habitat has responded to requests for support towards developing improved policies, plans and strategies for strengthening mitigation and adaptation to climate change through capacity building, development of tools and guides and technical support. It has engaged a wide range of stakeholders to increase focus on global climate objectives.

Figure 2.4 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 2.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 2.4: progress made towards indicator targets for 2018

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
City authorities	10	15	22	22	29	24
Subnational authorities	2	3	3	2	2	3
National authorities	7	8	11	10	10	14

Box 2.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

City authorities (7)	**Honiara**, (Solomon Island) **Damamm, Medinah, Tabuk, Mecca** and **Taif,** (Saudi Arabia) **Kampala** (Uganda);

Global and regional achievements

A key normative achievement was the successful co-organization (with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other partners) of the first-ever Scientific Conference on Cities and Climate Change, held in Edmonton, **Canada**, in March 2018. This event was instrumental in shaping the research agenda on cities and climate

change, and it will guide research on this topic for the next decade or more – a high level knowledge impact. At the Edmonton conference, UN-Habitat strongly advocated for further research on informality and climate change. This recommendation was indeed prominently reflected in the IPCC-approved outcome document. In December 2018 following the 24th Conference of Parties (COP-24) of the UN Framework Convention

on Climate Change, UN-Habitat released the Proceedings of this conference, to make the scientific contributions, background papers, etc. more widely available, to decision-makers and climate negotiators.

At COP-24, UN-Habitat launched a guide on *Addressing Urban and Human Settlement Issues in National Adaptation Plans.* It is aimed at strengthening the urban
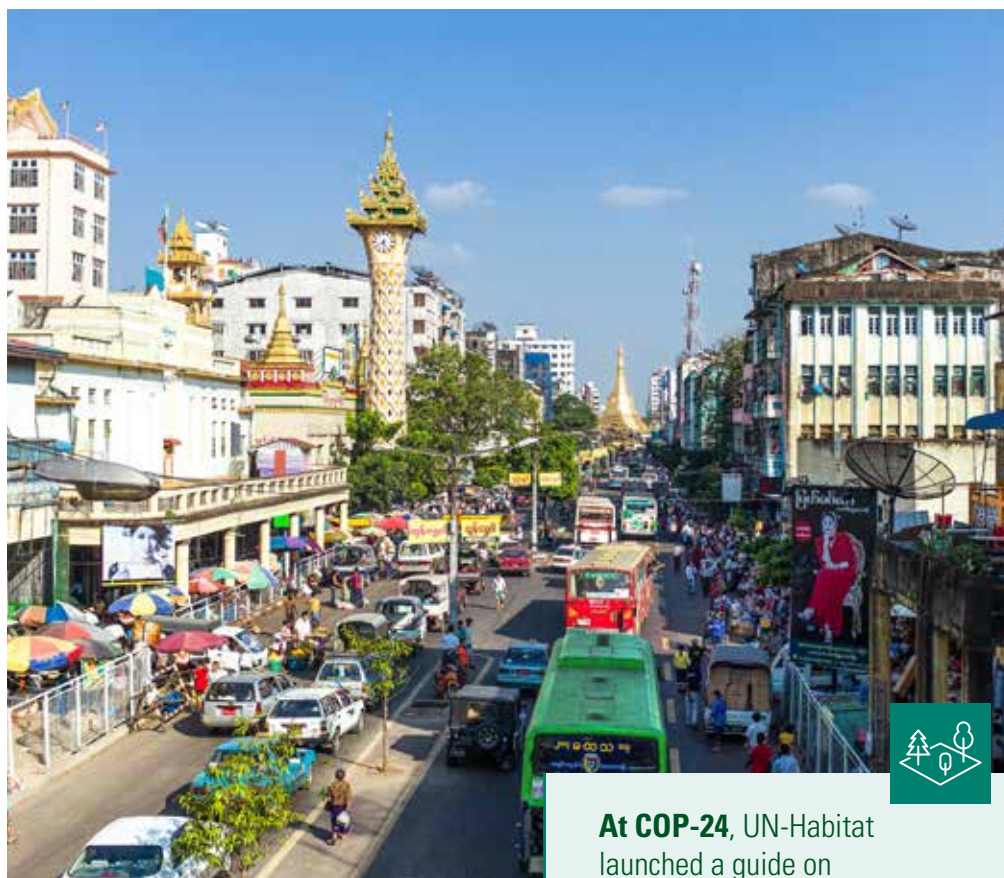
dimensions of such plans. This publication was the result of a request from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group of the UNFCCC, and it supplements its guidance on National Adaptation Plans. The publication represented a follow-up of our engagement with the Nairobi Work Programme in COP-23 of the previous year. It was developed through a consultative process with several Member States (**Norway, Sweden, Ethiopia, Egypt, Thailand, Togo, Palestine**) and other partners.

Also, at COP-24 (as well as at a tripartite conference on slum upgrading that took place in Brussels the preceding month), UN-Habitat launched another normative document *"Addressing the Most Vulnerable First: Climate Action in Informal Settlements"*. This normative guide is one of the first, if not the first, to address this important topic. It will be complemented by a *"Tool for Vulnerability Assessment and Action Planning in Informal Settlements"*, planned for 2019. Both normative documents will reflect lessons learned from field-level experiences, including methodologies and approaches tested in five pilot cities.

UN-Habitat provided visibility, technical expertise and advice to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), on whose Board the UN-Habitat Executive Director sits. Due to UN-Habitat support, 120 local leaders around the world signed letters expressing preliminary interest in joining GCoM; and to date 27 cities have formally committed[1].

Country achievements

UN-Habitat has supported improvement of policies, plans and strategies at city, subnational and national authorities for support to develop for strengthening mitigation and adaptation to climate change by strengthening capacities, providing tools, guides and technical support. It has engaged a wide range of stakeholders to increase focus on global climate objectives. UN-Habitat developed tools and guides, including the

Yangon, Myanmar by @ Ilija Gubic

At COP-24, UN-Habitat launched a guide on Addressing Urban and Human Settlement Issues in National Adaptation Plans. It is aimed at strengthening the urban dimensions of such plans.

"Guiding Principles for City Climate Action Planning; Vulnerability Assessments and Climate Action Planning"; "Addressing Urban and Human Settlement Issues in National Adaptation Plans"; and "Guiding Principles Toolkit".

During 2018, a project in Cambodia produced 7 nationally-focused knowledge products on: *monitoring and evaluation of adaptation investments; innovative financing schemes for mainstreaming climate resilience at provincial, district and commune levels; opportunities and barriers to adaptation and disaster risk reduction at the district and commune level; best practices at sub-national level; Subnational mainstreaming of climate risks (based on pilots); revised Master Plan on gender and climate change for Cambodia; gender mainstreaming*

in adaptation plans of at least 3 sectors: agriculture, water resources and health; and economic analysis of gender mainstreaming in adaptation (based on pilots). A technical guide, *"Climate Change and National Urban Policies in Asia and the Pacific"* a regional guide for mainstreaming climate change into urban- related policy, legislative and financial and institutional frameworks which provides policymakers with a flexible non-prescriptive approach that can help with integration of climate change into urban policy was prepared.

UN-Habitat also continued to co-ordinate the **Urban Low Emission Development Strategies** (Urban LEDS) project, in partnership with the implementing

[1] https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/

partner, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. Local governments in **South Africa, Indonesia, India, Brazil** and **Rwanda** were supported to develop proposals for climate projects and update their city-wide greenhouse gas inventories. KwaDukuza, **South Africa**, became the first secondary city in Africa to complete all the climate action steps under this initiative. UN-Habitat also assisted cities in **Mozambique** and **Comoros,** to move towards this goal. Local governments in **Colombia, Lao PDR, Bangladesh** and **Rwanda** joined the Urban LEDS project and began their journeys to developing urban low emission development strategies and action plans.

Somalia developed plans and strategies, with UN-Habitat assistance, taking into consideration adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change, especially in regard to floods.

UN-Habitat and partners are supporting countries to mainstream climate change: **Bangladesh**, is mainstreaming climate change into urban policies under the Cities and Climate Change Initiative as part of a regional programme; **Fiji** is working on enhancement of climate change and disaster resilience of informal settlements for which action planning is ongoing; **Nepal** is working on a green procurement policy that will be adopted by cities with traditional settlements; **Pakistan** has formulated Sustainable Consumption and Production Policy Guidelines and Green Building Codes to be disseminated among the national and international stakeholders. The national government policy on climate action planning was changed to include mitigation action plans.

In partnership with the Asian Development Bank, UN-Habitat is implementing the Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning project in **Cambodia.**

City achievements

Honiara, **Solomon Islands** approved a plan to invest in infrastructure development for climate change adaptation in informal settlements, with UN-Habitat support. Damamm, **Medinah, Tabuk, Mecca** and **Taif**, all in the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, integrated climate change into the recently finalized plans for the **Future Saudi Arabia Cities Development**.

UN-Habitat has supported 16 cities in strengthening climate adaptation and mitigation plans, as well as carrying out Vulnerability Assessments and Climate Action planning in 189 villages spread over 8 districts in **Lao PDR**, and 12 coastal communities in West Africa (**Ghana** and **Cote d' Ivoire**).

Kigali, Rwanda @UN-Habitat

03

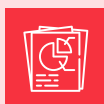# Urban Economy and Municipal Finance

Key achievements in 2018

Municipal revenue in **Afghanistan** has significantly increased as a result of UN-Habitat's normative and operational support. Systemic reforms introduced to the safayi system (levy on property) have made the system more transparent, reliable, and comprehensive resulting in increased local revenue generation. By the end of 2018, there was a significant increase in municipal revenue, with 8 cities having USD 5.49 Million *safayi* fees paid to municipalities.
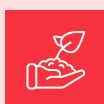
UN-Habitat's continued technical support to municipalities in 17 districts of **Somalia** has resulted in steady increase in local revenue. For example, by the end of 2018, a 7 per cent increase in Hargeisa, **Somaliland**, has contributed improved provision of basic urban services such as primary health and education services, waste management, roads construction and streetlighting.

18,156 youths in seven countries **(Colombia, Kenya, Guinea, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)** had their capacities on employment and improved livelihoods enhanced through programmes such as the One Stop Youth Resource Centers.

In **Saudi Arabia,** local economic and financial analyses for 17 Saudi cities were completed in 2018. These analyses identified strategic economic sectors for investment along with policy tools and mechanisms to help promote competition, productivity, and harness economic potential.
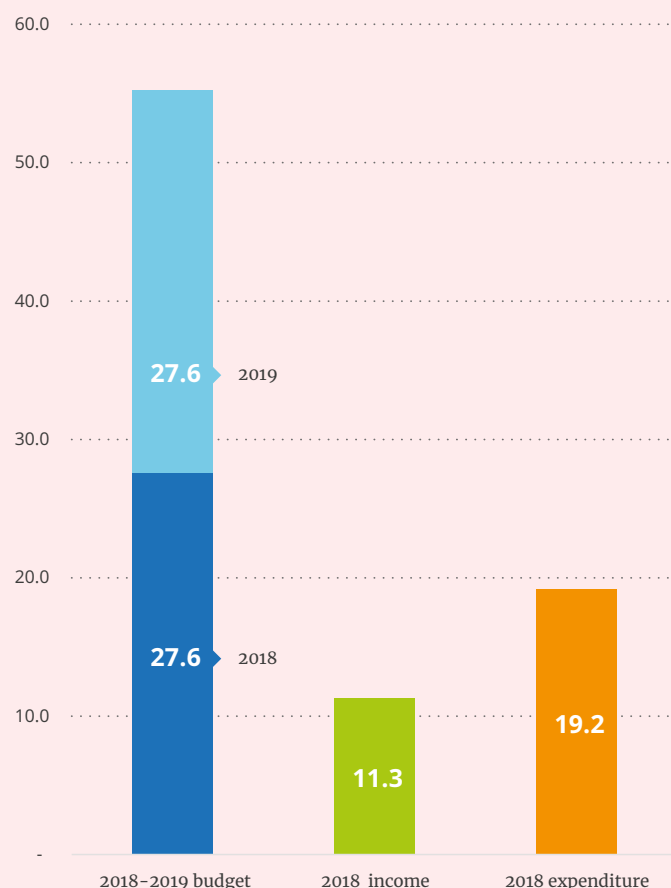
UN-Habitat technical support to Homa Bay County Government **(Kenya),** on local economic development, led to development of the Nyakwere open air market. This has led to rapid increase in land value resulting in rise in investment in real estate, hospitality, cottage industries and trade of food and non-food items, and job creation with over 5000 people currently using the market.

Budget performance

Figure 3.1 shows the budget for urban economy activities in the 2018–2019 work programme amounted to USD 55.2 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 27.6 million for 2018. The annual implementation level in 2018 of USD 11.4 million represents 41 percent of the budget. New income acquired in 2018 for the subprogramme amounted to USD 19.2 million. This area has experienced challenges in mobilizing sufficient resources to cover planned activities.

Figure 3.1: Urban Economy and Municipal Finance – budget, income and expenditure (USD millions)

Local Market in Tanzania @UN-Habitat

Introduction

The Urban Economy and Municipal Finance, Subprogramme 3 of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, supports local, regional and national authorities in adopting and implementing policies and strategies that are supportive of inclusive economic growth and development, the creation of economic opportunities for all, particularly young women, men and vulnerable groups and improvement of municipal finance. UN-Habitat's efforts in this focus area contributes the New Urban Agenda and to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5, 8, 9,10 and 11.

The rate of urbanization in developing countries has been much faster than the rate at which the cities have been able to generate jobs for their rapidly growing populations. As a result, a large proportion of the population, especially women and youth in many cities remain unemployed or under employed. Globally, young people are three times more likely to be unemployed than adults.

Another challenge is that many municipal authorities in developing countries face a growing gap between revenue generation and expenditure needs. Inability to mobilize adequate financial resources to meet the ever-growing demand for adequate provision of public goods and services, especially urban basic services, remains a serious challenge in developing countries, with more people living in cities than ever before. In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, USD30-60 billion a year is needed for financing basic urban infrastructure and service delivery.

In 2018, UN-Habitat continued to support city, regional and national authorities to adopt improved urban policies and strategies that are supportive of economic development, youth employment and municipal finance. Specific attention was paid to supporting the formulation and implementation of urban strategies and policies that promote local economic development, own source revenue generation by local authorities and empowerment of women and youth through improved access to information and communication technology.

After the training on solar energy, I jumped for joy! I have been able to find work in implementing solar energy systems which are becoming more and more important. Zira Jerome, Community Member, Burkina Faso.

Progress and Results

Expected Accomplishment 1: Improved capacity of partner cities to adopt strategies supportive of inclusive economic growth.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicators of achievement below.
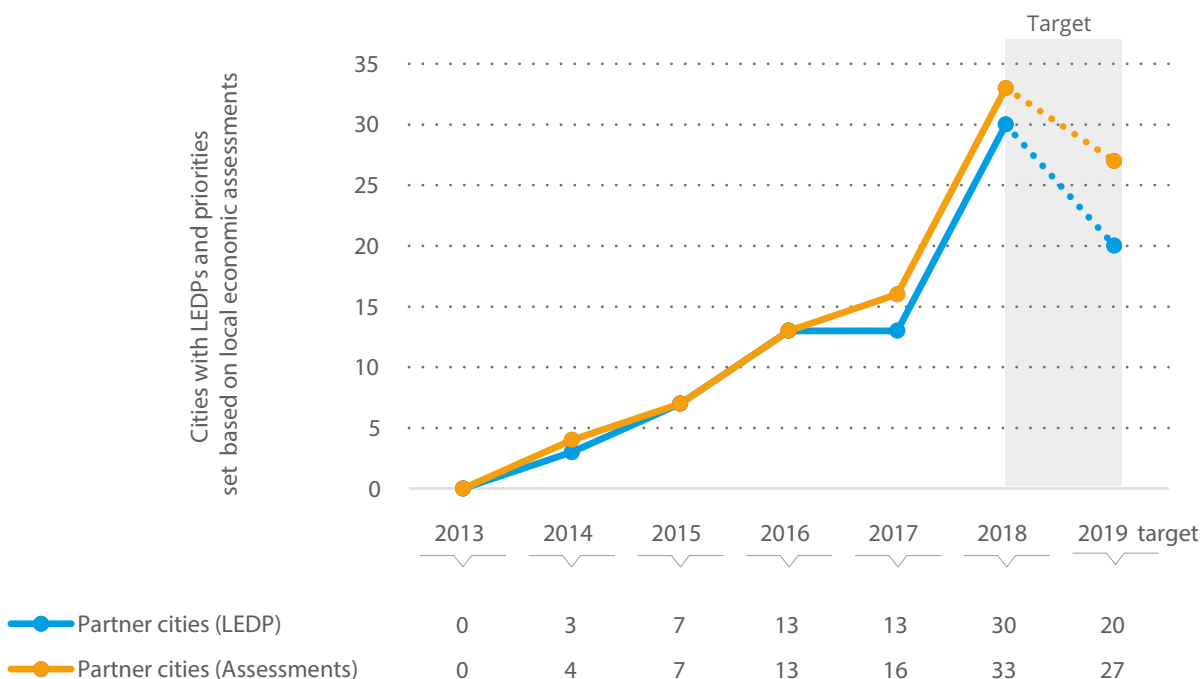
Indicator of achievement 1: Increased number of partner cities that prepared local economic development plans.

Indicator of achievement 2: Increased number of partner cities that set priorities based on local economic assessment.

UN–Habitat supported partner cities to act as engines of economic development and enhance their contribution to value creation and building of wealth and assets. In 2018, three countries, **Saudi Arabia**, **Mongolia** and **Nepal** developed local economic development plans while one is under development in **Colombia**. About 17 cities in **Saudi Arabia** developed local economic development plans in 2018.

Figure 3.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 3.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 3.2: Progress made towards indicator targets 2018

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Partner cities (LEDP)	0	3	7	13	13	30	20
Partner cities (Assessments)	0	4	7	13	16	33	27

Box 3.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner cities (17)	Saudi Arabia – (**Buraidah, Dammam, Jeddah, Riyadh, Makkah, Taif, Tabuk, Madinah, Skaka, Hael, Arar, Al Asha, Al Baha, Abha, Najran, Jazan, and Qatif**)

Global achievements

During 2018, UN-Habitat and partners strengthened the capacity of partner cities through training, normative tools, technical advice and operational interventions to help them adopt local economic development plans that contribute to local economic growth, value creation and building of wealth and assets. To this end, several knowledge tools were produced to improve understanding, knowledge and skills of cities on productivity, finance, economic growth. These include: i) Developing public spaces and land values; ii) Economic benefits of the territorial strategy in the Zapopan Municipality, **Mexico**; iii) Local economic development, micro-enterprise and crime reduction: lessons from Cali, **Colombia**; iv) Municipal finance in **India**; and v) Sub-national borrowing in Africa.

Country achievements

The combination of productivity and finance has been shown to drive economic development as has been demonstrated through the Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia**. Through the Future Saudi Cities Programme, UN-Habitat and partners produced economic and financial analyses for 17 cities (**Buraidah, Dammam, Jeddah, Riyadh, Makkah, Taif, Tabuk, Madinah, Skaka, Hail, Arar, Al Asha, Al Baha, Abha, Najran, Jazan, and Qatif**). The analyses, identified strategic economic sectors prime for investment along with policy tools and mechanisms to help spur competition, improve productivity, and harness the economic potential of these cities.

In the Municipality of Ulaanbaatar, **Mongolia**, members in 664 startup businesses have had their capacities strengthened through community engagement and small and medium enterprises development, and linked to micro and small and medium enterprise development loan facilities. A draft strategy for local businesses development has also been developed that will support the scaling up of the initiative.

In **Nepal**, an action plan was developed that provides technical support for building capacity, developing entrepreneurship and improving marketing facilities for people in Bungamati area in the Kathmandu Valley, through the Sustainable Tourism and Green Growth in Heritage Settlements project.

In **Iraq**, local economic development strategies have been incorporated in the Local Area Development Programme. The Ramadi Recovery and Development Plan has contributed to improving the local economy by improving commerce, industrial modernization and tourism. Development anchors in selected locations have been identified to offer tangible opportunities for using public funds to leverage private investments, particularly through transportation nodes.

Colombia is currently formulating a Habitat and Housing Masterplan that presents tools to manage the land market and control speculation, as well as proposing formalization of informal settlements. The tools are expected to promote development and innovation in local economies.

UN-Habitat worked with two municipalities, Reynosa and Zapopan in **Mexico**, and carried out an analysis of the economic dimension of the municipalities' Vision Strategies. Analysis of the economic dimension of the Vision Reynosa 2030, calculation of some of the economic costs of urban expansion, factors that affect the value of Reynosa's land and evaluation of municipal finances. In the case study of Zapopan, some of the economic costs of urban expansion were identified and estimates made.

The municipal finance and prosperity of cities is one of the national urban and spatial development policy pillars in **Cabo Verde**, developed with technical support from UN-Habitat and helped to strengthen supportive strategies for inclusive economic growth.

The local economy is being improved in Counties in **Kenya** through market development, as an example in Homa Bay County, the government has improved Nyakwere open air market, and is working in the market in the Central Business District. As a result, land values have increased by about 5 percent per acre in the contiguous areas around the market, this increases revenues for the local government. There is a surge in local investment in the area in hospitality, cottage industries and trade of food and non-food items has increased. The local economy has been expanded as the construction work has provided over 1000 short-term job opportunities for skilled and unskilled youth and women in the area. Over 5000 people are currently using the makeshift market, as most of the vendors come from rural areas, this is also strengthening urban-rural linkages.

Expected Accomplishment 3.2: Improved capacity of partner cities to adopt urban policies and programs supportive of increased employment, livelihoods and opportunities and with focus on urban youth and women.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below.
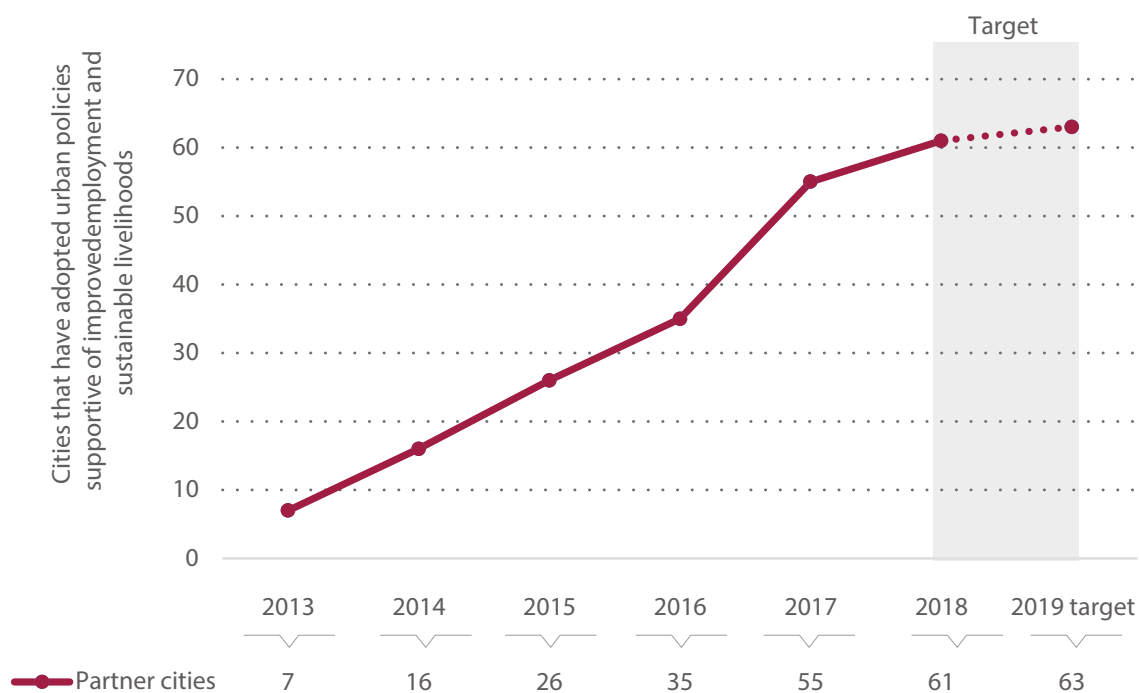
Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner cities that have adopted urban policies or programmes supportive of improved employment and sustainable livelihoods with focus on urban youth and women, displaced populations, people with disabilities and other vulnerable populations.

In 2018, UN–Habitat produced a number of normative tools aimed at improving the capacity of partner cities to adopt policies and programmes that enhance employment, livelihoods and opportunities and with focus on urban youth and women. These include: *Youth 2030: UN Youth Strategy*; *Youth as Agents of Peace: Somalia*; *State of Women and Youth in Saudi Cities*; *Refugee Youth Good Practices in Urban Resettlement Context*; *Capacity Building in Support of Young Refugees in Metropolitans*; *and Youth and the Blue Economy Declaration.*

By the end of 2018 a total of 61 cities had adopted urban policies and programs supportive of increased employment, livelihoods and opportunities and with focus on urban youth and women with an additional five cities in 2018.

Figure 3.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 3.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 3.3: Progress made towards indicator targets 2018

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Partner cities	7	16	26	35	55	61	63

Box 3.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner cities that have adopted urban policies or programmes supportive of improved employment and sustainable livelihoods

6 partner cities: **Kenya** (Nairobi, Kisumu, Mombasa), **Somalia** (Mogadishu, Kismayo, Garowe)

Global achievements

UN-Habitat utilized global strategic platforms to advocate for positive response to issues affecting the urban youth. At the 9th World Urban Forum, the Children and Youth Assemblies, the Youth Advisory Board, Major Groups for Children and Youth and local youth-led organizations engaged with representatives of local governments and articulated emerging urban issues proposed innovative solutions. This culminated in the WUF 9 Children and Youth Declaration presented during the closing ceremony. In addition, UN-Habitat as the co-chair for the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, co-authored the new Youth 2030: UN Youth Strategy with the Secretary General's Youth Envoy and UNDESA. The strategy will support the scaling up of global, regional and national actions to meet young people's needs, realize their rights and tap their possibilities as agents of change.

Country achievements

Using the *"Youth as Agents of Peace: Somalia"* as a case study, UN-Habitat hosted a panel discussion during the 73rd General Assembly in partnership with the Government of Canada, to highlight, how UN Security Council Resolution 2250, on Youth, Peace and Security can be translated into practice. It examined the importance of a comprehensive approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace through the prevention of conflict, addressing its root causes at all stages of conflict, as well as strengthening implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda at the local level.

Through its operational and pilot programmes targeting urban youth, UN-Habitat focused on youth in urban economics and finance as drivers of prosperity. To this end, UN-Habitat continued to support One Stop Youth Centers, entrepreneurship, innovation and urban renewal by providing training on those topics to a growing number of youths who were empowered with new skills that enhanced possibilities of sustainable employment. For example,

a recent study has shown that the Mathare Environmental One Stop Centre, launched in 2017 by UN Secretary General António Guterres, services over 150 youth per day. By creating opportunities for youth, UN-Habitat was worked to catalyze urban economies by giving them skills required by employers. During 2018, 18,156 youth had their capacities, knowledge and skills enhanced in areas that support improved employment, and livelihood opportunities, (**Kenya**, 10240; **Guinea**, 70; **Rwanda**, 4974; **Somalia**, 1400; **South Sudan**, 55; and **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, 270). About 1147 beneficiaries had their capacities strengthened through the Colombia Peace Labs Project.

The Meru Youth Service programme, **Kenya**, recruited over 1000 youth who benefited from various training and skill building activities, including brick-making techniques and masonry. A One-Stop Youth Innovation Centre in Meru provides internet services, youth-friendly health testing and counseling – 1500 youth have benefited from the entire programme. In **South Sudan**, 552 youths received vocational and life skills training at a One Stop Youth Centre where some have managed to find jobs and increase their income.

Opportunities for youth employment and livelihoods were enhanced through expansion of the flagship One Stop Youth Resource Centre model into new cities in the Africa Region in October 2018 when it was show cased during the Africa Youth Connekt Summit attended by over 4974 participants in Kigali, **Rwanda**. It was highlighted as an initiative that connects youth for transformation through provision of safe urban spaces. Rwandan youth employment opportunities were increased through the expansion of the One Stop Youth Resource Centre model into 29 out of 30 districts in 2017.

In **Guinea**, 70 youth had their capacities strengthened by UN-Habitat, UNDP and UNIDO through vocational training on the manufacture, assembly, installation and maintenance of photovoltaic solar street light which contributes to improved urban security. The skills acquired increased

In Guinea, **70 youth** had their capacities strengthened by UN-Habitat, UNDP and UNIDO through vocational training on the manufacture, assembly, installation and maintenance of photovoltaic solar street light which contributes to improved urban security.

opportunities for employment and sustainable livelihoods. About 1400 youths in **Somalia** were equipped with skills in entrepreneurship and how to start a business and connect to local employers. As a result, some trainees secured short- and long-term employment, while 70 of them started their own businesses

Through the Clean and Green Cities project in **Afghanistan**, UN-Habitat and partners created over two million job days that improved the well-being of the citizens and the quality of the urban environment in 12 cities in 2018. In **Nepal**, Lalitpur Municipality, people displaced by the earthquake of 2015 in Bungamati Heritage city had their capacity enhanced through an "entrepreneur development" training programme which helped them understand current business trends. Most of the trainees are women who are home-based and known for their traditional skill such as cloth weaving, wood carving, traditional food making. After the training, some were motivated to extend their business at national and international levels.

In the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, 15 partner cities (Jeddah, Riyadh, Makkah, Taif, Tabuk, Madinah, Skaka, Hail, Arar, Al Asha, Al Baha, Abha, Najran, Jazan, and Qatif) adopted urban policies and programmes supportive of improved employment and sustainable livelihoods with focus on urban youth and women. The attendants of the workshops on the integrated profiles exceeded more than 2500 forming more than 200 local public and private entities and agencies.

Expected Accomplishment 3.3: Improved capacity of partner cities to adopt policies, plans and strategies for improved urban and municipal finance.
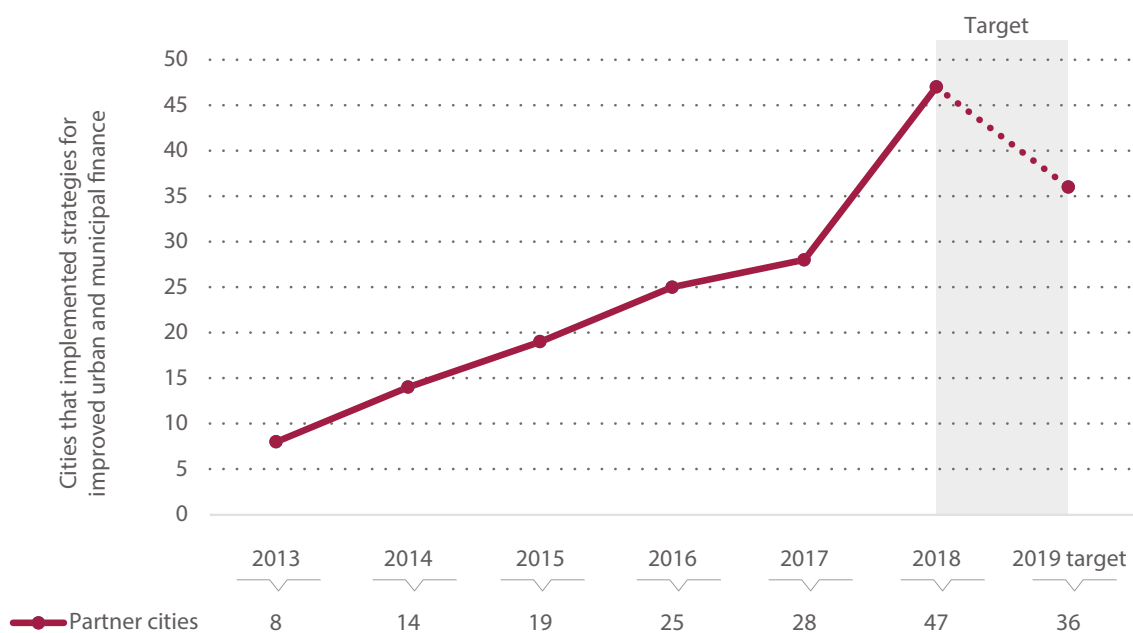
Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below.

Indicator of achievement: Increased number of partner cities that have implemented plans or strategies for improved urban and municipal finance.

UN–Habitat has contributed towards improved understanding on land value, and land revenues for local governments by training public servants, producing discussion papers and implementing related field projects and developing a global municipal data base. Partner cities whose capacities were enhanced by UN–Habitat have been able to increase their municipal revenue and adopt mechanisms to strengthen accountability, transparency and fairness and improve access to urban social and basic services, as has been demonstrated in **Afghanistan** and **Somalia**.

Figure 3.4 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 3.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 3.4 Progress towards indicator targets

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Partner cities	8	14	19	25	28	47	36

Box 3.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner cities (19)	19 cities - **Saudi Arabia** (Buraidh, Dammam, Jeddah, Riyadh, Makkah, Taif, Tabuk, Madinah, Skaka, Hail, Arar, Al Asha, Al Baha, Abha, Najran, Jazan, and Qatif); **Somaliland** (Zeila) and **Puntland** (Galka'ayo).

Global and regional achievements

UN–Habitat made significant progress in strengthening capacity for improving municipal finance through its normative, advocacy and training initiatives.

UN–Habitat launched its own Urban Economy Finance Blog that provides an interactive platform for experts in urban economy and finance and the public to engage in informative and cutting-edge developments. UN–Habitat also launched the Global Municipal Database, with support from New York University and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. The database contains population data at municipal level and municipal budget data for 94 cities around the world and includes total municipal budget, own source revenue, capital expenditures and debt repayment.

At the Africities Conference in Marrakesh, Morocco in 2018, UN–Habitat shared success stories on increasing own-source revenue and stressed the replicability of these stories with senior government officials from 7 African cities from around the African continent. The aim was to provide new options for city managers on how to address their financial challenges, with special emphasis on the replicability of these success stories.

Country achievements

The Municipal Finance programme in Somalia has continued in Somaliland, Puntland and Federal Member States. The program is now active in 17 districts in Somaliland (**Hargeisa, Berbera, Sheikh, Buroa, Odwiene, Gabiley, Borama and Zeila**) and 7 districts in Puntland (**Garowe, Gardo, Bosaso, Eyl, Bander-Bayla, Jarriban and Galka'ayo**). Mogadishu municipality currently raises own source revenue mainly from properties, business licenses and city transport sector. In **Somaliland** and **Puntland**, target districts have witnessed continued increases in revenue collection and improved accountability and transparency on public funds. Due to the increased municipal revenue, citizens in those towns have improved provision of basic urban services such as primary health and education services, waste management, roads construction and streetlighting.
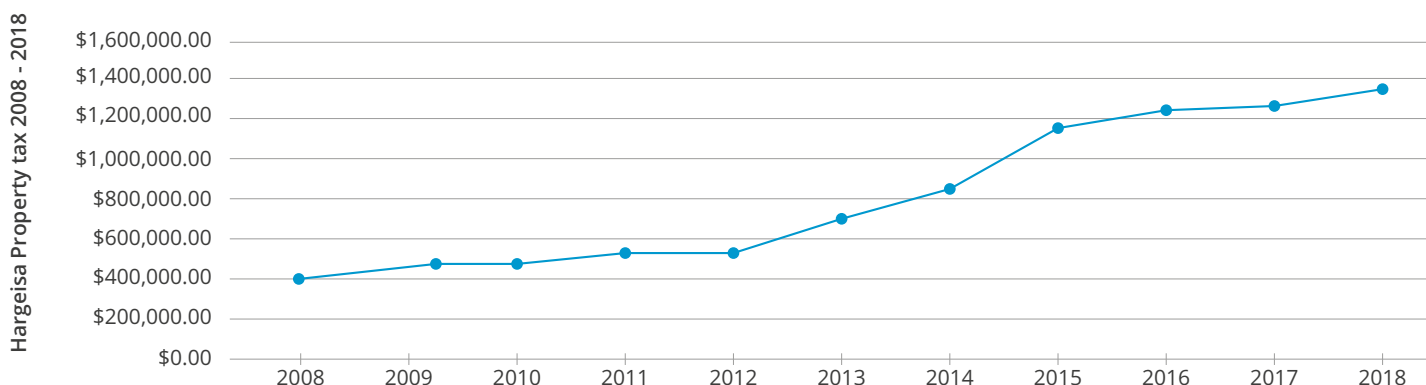
In **Afghanistan**, UN–Habitat has supported the Municipality of Nahias to create and maintain accurate and complete Safayi records through property surveys and registration. The programme also introduced adjustments in the municipal finance system including an objective assessment of Safayi fees, more efficient and user-friendly invoicing and payment mechanisms, and new transparent and accountable expenditure management procedures that involve community representatives. New Safayi Guidelines included in the Safayi Operational Manual aimed at increasing municipal revenue and improving the relationship between local government and communities have supported the collection of Safayi tax. By 2018, 234,454 safayi invoices in 8 cities had been issued, with USD 5.49 million safayi fee paid to municipalities.

Through its operational interventions at regional and country level, UN–Habitat supported partner cities to adopt policies, policies, plans and strategies to improve urban and municipal finance.

In **Iraq**, UN–Habitat piloted a critical initiative *Enhanced Municipal Finance and Budget Execution* in four governorates to assess their capacity to raise municipal revenues, widen the municipal tax base and manage and execute expenditure for improvement of services in specific urban related sectors. About 25 officials from the pilot municipalities had their capacities strengthened on effective revenue generation and improved budget execution.

Figure 3.5: Increase in property tax in Hargeisa, Somaliland

The future Saudi Cities programme in the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** stimulated debate on the future of cities in the Kingdom and on what is required to make them more prosperous, functional and sustainable. Evidence was provided on the importance of diversification of the economy. UN–Habitat analyses have provided benchmarks and information for the implementation of local finance system for all 17 cities covered. Three demonstration projects were developed for **Buraidah, Arar,** and **Al Asha** and yielded key lessons on small to medium–sized cities.

Youth undergoing training in Somalia. @UN-Habitat

Business district in Kolkana, India. @Shutterstock

IMPACT STORY

Increasing municipal revenues in Afghanistan to promote self-reliance

As Afghanistan moves to reduce its reliance on foreign aid and move towards the declared national goal of self-reliance by 2024, it has become more and more important to improve the country's local revenue systems.

Municipalities in Afghanistan have been historically weak, with control and resources being focussed in central government; a lack of stable, predictable, and adequate revenue streams have prevented municipalities from being able to adequately provide basic services and infrastructure to their constituents.

One of the major streams of revenue available to municipalities is the safayi fee, which is levied on the value of a property, and is used to provide for basic services and infrastructure to the citizens. While this has the potential to become a significant and reliable revenue source, it has been underutilised to date. Around two thirds of Afghanistan's properties are unregistered, so do not pay any safayi fee; from those that are registered, fees are not collected systematically but rather on an ad hoc basis. In Kabul Municipality, it is estimated that safayi fees were collected from only 12 percent of eligible properties in 2016.

Identification of boundaries for safayi fee calculation in Kabul @UN-Habitat

Safayi payers with certificates of payment

UN Habitat's City for All programme, with the support of USAID and the European Union, introduced systematic reforms to the safayi system to make it more transparent, reliable, and comprehensive. These included surveying all properties (over 1 million in total), including informal properties, for property registration and collection of safayi fees; introducing an electronic database for calculation, recording, and tracking of safayi fees, which was previously carried out manually; establishing direct payment into a municipality's bank account, removing opportunities for misuse of funds; and annual delivery of safayi invoices to all properties surveyed, combined with outreach and awareness activities. UN Habitat has also supported a number of legislative and regulatory reforms to the safayi process.

With the support of City for All program, Kabul Municipality is developing and endorsing new property values which more accurately reflect market prices. UN Habitat is also working closely with government counterparts to develop a new safayi regulation and has provided technical guidance on relevant sections of the new Municipal Law approved in 2018.

Until 2018, 234,454 safayi invoices in 8 cities have been issued, with USD 5.49 Million safayi fee being paid to municipalities to date. As the programme continues to increase the number of properties surveyed and deliver invoices to properties across Afghanistan, this amount will increase several times over.

The District Manager for Kabul District 17 noted that: "Previously, District 17 was able to issue 20-55 safayi notebooks per month. However, ... the district is now able to issue up to 100 notebooks per week. I believe the programme is making safayi fee fairer and more transparent".

04

Urban Basic Services

Key achievements in 2018

1.2 million people benefitted from improved access to water and sanitation, through UN-Habitat-supported field demonstration projects in **Egypt, Nepal, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka.**

By the end of 2018, over **39 million people** globally have benefited from improved access to water and sanitation services through improved policies and strategies for efficient operations and maintenance of water and sanitation systems supported by the Global Water Operators' Partnerships.

USD 22.2 million worth of investments was catalyzed for expanding access to urban basic services through UN-Habitat programmes in partner countries. The largest contribution of **USD 20,852,000** was from EU funding for UN-Habitat-led interventions including urban basic services in Iraq. Additional funding of **USD 403,000** from Coca Cola and **USD 477,000** from Replenish Africa Initiative was catalyzed for expanding water supply in Egypt. In **Lao PDR, USD 418,000** was catalyzed from the Nordic Climate Fund to support decentralized wastewater systems. In **Somalia, USD 900,000** from the EU was raised for the expansion of the Hargeisa water supply system.

UN-Habitat contributed to improved monitoring of SDGs through the first global status report on wastewater management issues titled, *"Progress on Wastewater Treatment: Piloting the monitoring methodology and initial findings for SDG indicator 6.3.1".*

UN-Habitat's pilot work in promoting the Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) as one of the sustainable mobility solutions is gaining traction. The system is being implemented in **Kenya, Ethiopia** and **Egypt**. **Ethiopia** has received financing of EUR 85 Million for the design and construction of their pilot BRT system.
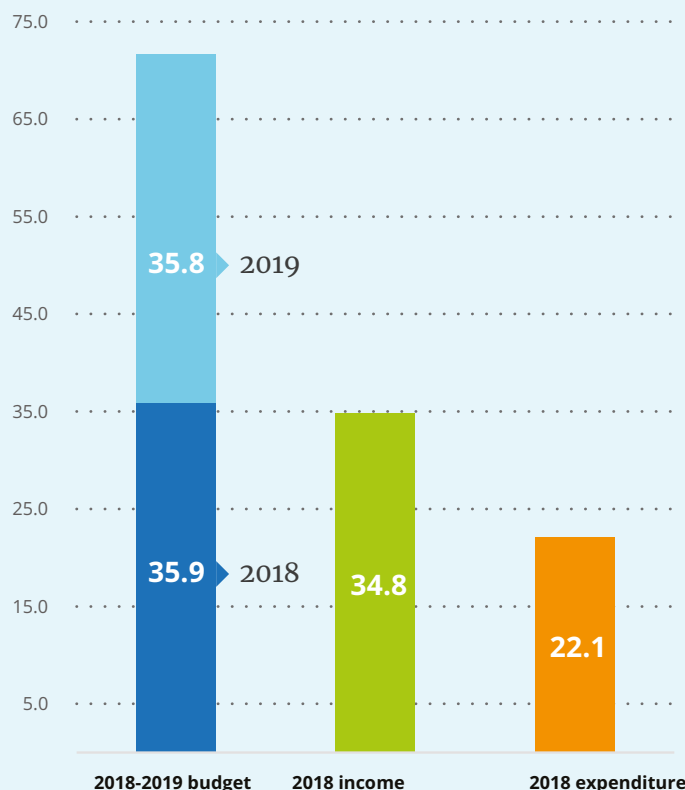
The *"Waste Wise Cities Campaign"* launched on World Habitat Day in 2018, represents a major global call to Action to address the increasing challenge of Municipal Solid Waste Management. 60 cities have so far joined the Campaign.

Through the *African Clean Cities Platform* with a current membership of 64 cities in 34 countries, the capacity of governments to develop policies and mobilize investments for solid waste management has improved. Seven countries and six cities joined the Platform in 2018.

Budget performance

Figure 4.1 shows the budget for urban basic services activities in the 2018–2019 work programme amounted to USD 71.7 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 35.9 million for 2018. The annual implementation level in 2018 of USD 22.1 million represents 62 percent of the budget while new income acquired in 2018 for the subprogramme amounted to USD 34.8 million or 97 percent of the annual target.

Figure 4.1: Urban Basic Services – budget, income and expenditure (USD Millions)

" "In the past, only those with water pumps could access water. Since we needed water, we used to go to the canal next to the village to get it. Now we have a better water pressure and the majority stopped using pumps because we can access more water now."

Ms. Suhair Fathy, a beneficiary of our support to Egypt's Riverbank Filtration Technology **"**

Introduction

The Urban Basic Services, Subprogramme 4 of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, supports member states to develop and implement policies for increasing equitable access to urban basic services and improving the standard of living of the urban poor within the context of the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda. UN-Habitat also assists both national and local governments to develop low carbon emission interventions with a focus on urban transport, energy efficiency in the built environment and renewable energy generation in cities. This subpogramme contributes to the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12.

The number of people in urban areas without adequate access to basic services such a safe water supply, sanitation, clean domestic energy, solid waste management services and public transport is increasing due to rapid urban population growth, increasing poverty and growing financial resource constraints. The problem is compounded by dilapidated infrastructure, weak governance and overlapping responsibilities between different levels of government. Inadequate resources available at the local level, low investments and lack of pro-poor financing mechanisms are also major challenges.

To address these challenges, UN-Habitat efforts in this subprogramme are focused on the achievement of three main results: (i) improving policies and guidelines on equitable access to sustainable urban basic services implemented by partner local, regional and national authorities; (ii) increasing flow of investments into urban basic services catalyzed by UN-Habitat programmes in partner countries with a focus on the urban poor; and (iii) increasing coverage of sustainable urban basic services in targeted communities.

Progress and Results in 2018

> *Expected Accomplishment 4.1: Improved policies and guidelines on equitable access to sustainable urban basic services implemented by partner local, subnational and national authorities.*
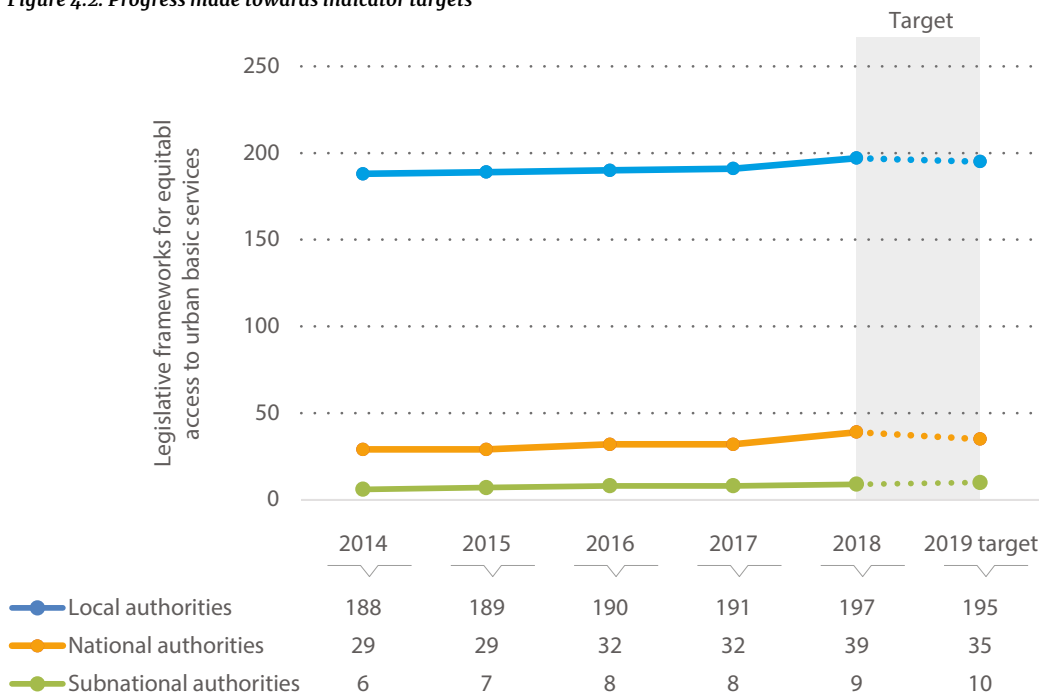>
> Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below.
>
> **Indicator of achievement:** Increased number of partner local, regional and national authorities implementing policies and the International Guidelines on Decentralization and Access to Basic Services for All.

In 2018, six new local authorities **Bangui** (Central African Republic); **Mbabane** (Eswatini); **Libreville** (Gabon); **Maseru City** (Lesotho); **Abidjan** (Cote d'Ivore); and **Kaduna State** (Nigeria) and 7 national governments (**Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Eswatini, Gabon and Lesotho**) joined the African Clean Cities Platform. The number of subnational authorities also increased from 8 in 2017 to 9 in 2018, with the establishment of a Consortium of European Utilities to lobby European institutions for Water Operators Partnership-pro-poor water policies and financing windows in 2018.

Figure 4.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 4.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 4.2: Progress made towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Local authorities	188	189	190	191	197	195
National authorities	29	29	32	32	39	35
Subnational authorities	6	7	8	8	9	10

Box 4.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018	
Local authorities (6)	6 -Cities -**Bangui** (Central Africa Republic), **Mbabane** (Eswatini), **Libreville** (Gabon), **Maseru City** (Lesottho), **Abidjan** (Cote d'Ivore), **Kaduna State** (Nigeria) joined the African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP)
National authorities (7)	7 additional countries joined ACCP (**Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Eswatini, Gabon and Lesotho**)
Subnational authorities (1)	Establishment of a Consortium of European Utilities in 2018

Global achievements

During the reporting period, UN-Habitat made significant contributions in supporting member states in the achievement of the urban basic services-related SDGs by refining indicators, improving monitoring methodology and developing national and local capacity. UN-Habitat, in collaboration with UN Environment, launched a Joint Initiative for Waste SDG Indicator Monitoring and Capacity Development and has established coherent and robust monitoring indicators for SDG 11.6.1 on municipal solid waste, 12.3 on food waste, 12.4.2 on hazardous waste, 12.5 on recycling rate and 14.1 on marine litter. Pilot surveys have been undertaken in **Nigeria, Cameroon, Costa Rica and Bosnia.** UN-Habitat also assisted Member States in monitoring their progress against the waste management target. As a co-custodian of the wastewater indicator, UN-Habitat published the first global status report on wastewater management issues in 2018. The report entitled, *"Progress on Wastewater Treatment: Piloting the monitoring*

methodology and initial findings for SDG indicator 6.3.1" is part of the UN-Habitat-led Global Expanded Monitoring Initiative.

Another major contribution in strengthening the SDG monitoring was in the refinement of SDG 1. Together with partners including WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO and research institutions, UN-Habitat worked on the refinement of indicator 1.4.1 *'Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services'* and submitted the improved monitoring methodology to the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators. As a result, the indicator was upgraded from Tier III to Tier II.

As a member of the technical advisory group on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7 *(on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all)*, UN-Habitat developed a policy paper on energy and sustainable cities, to support the first review of Goal 7 at the 2018 session of the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development.

> The aim of the Waste Wise Cities Campaign is to mobilize **1,000 cities** to join by the end of 2020, and **4,000 cities** by October 2023.

Through the global *"Waste Wise Cities Campaign"*, launched on World Habitat Day in 2018, UN-Habitat has made a global call to Action to address the increasing challenge of Municipal Solid Waste Management. The aim of the Waste Wise Cities Campaign is to mobilize 1,000 cities to join by the end of 2020, and 4,000 cities by October 2023. So far, 60 cities have joined the Campaign. UN-Habitat will assist participating cities by sharing knowledge and good practice on municipal solid waste management, facilitating city-to-city collaboration, providing focused technical assistance, supporting city administrations in monitoring and reporting as well as recognizing notable achievement and success.

In its efforts to address the ever-increasing challenge of municipal solid waste management, UN-Habitat has been piloting the **Fukuoka Method** low cost sanitary landfill technology in various countries. After successful completion of the first landfill site to use the Fukuoka method in Kiambu County in **Kenya** in 2015, the initiative was scaled up. Construction of landfills commenced in the cities of Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar in **Ethiopia** in 2018. UN-Habitat is providing technical support to the City Government to retrofit, environmentally recover and sustainably close the Koshe (**Ethiopia**) dumping site. This is a 50-year old open landfill site where 200 waste-pickers and residents were killed when parts of the dumpsite collapsed in March 2017. UN-Habitat is also preparing to expand the application of the Fukuoka Method in other countries in **Asia** and **Africa**.

> As a co-custodian of the wastewater indicator, UN-Habitat published the **first global status report on wastewater management issues** in 2018. The report is part of the UN-Habitat-led Global Expanded Monitoring Initiative.

Regional achievements

The *African Clean Cities Platform* is supporting member states to achieve the SDGs on waste management. The Platform encourages sharing knowledge and experiences in waste management and promotes mobilization of public and private funds for waste management projects. National governments and local authorities are assisted to develop a balanced combination of monitoring, policy formulation and practical interventions to improve solid waste management. The goal of the initiative is to achieve "Clean and Healthy Cities in Africa" by 2030. So far, 64 cities in 35 countries in Africa have joined the Platform since it was launched in 2017. In 2018, six cities joined the Platform; **Bangui** (Central African Republic), **Mbabane** (Eswatini), **Libreville** (Gabon), **Maseru City** (Lesotho), **Abidjan** (Cote d'Ivore), **Kaduna State** (Nigeria). Seven countries, comprising **Angola, Benin, Central Africa, Chad, Eswatini, Gabon** and **Lesotho** also joined the Platform.

Through the Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance (GWOPA), UN-Habitat continued to expand its support to member states in achieving SDG 6 by strengthening the technical and management capacity of urban water and sanitation operators for improved efficiency and creation of enabling conditions for more sustainable and equitable provision of services. By the end of 2018, the Water Operators' Partnerships initiative had impacted over 39 Million people through improved policies and strategies for efficient operations and maintenance of water and sanitation systems and strengthened capacity of national water and sanitation service providers globally.

In 2018, 25 new Water Operators' Partnerships across Asia, Africa and Latin America under the WaterWorX program were launched to contribute to the achievement of SDG 6. The establishment of a Consortium of European Utilities to lobby European institutions for Water Operators Partnership–pro-poor policies and financing windows in 2018 will further help to expand access to water and sanitation services especially to the urban poor.

In Africa, nine water utilities, serving a total of 20 million people, are benefiting from implementation of performance improvement plans developed through Water Operators Partnerships. For example, in **Angola** partnerships with two water operators is benefiting over 1 million people including 600,000 water users in Cabinda and in Cunene Province.

In Latin America region, institutional partnerships between Water Operators Partnerships platforms in **Guatemala** and **Honduras** are strengthening the capacity of national water and sanitation service provider associations whose members serve at least 18 Million people.

Improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of water utilities were also recorded in the Asia and the Pacific region. In the Mekong region, Quality Management Systems have been adopted in 18 water utilities in **Cambodia** (4), **Lao PDR** (10) and **Vietnam** (4), leading to ISO: 9001 certification of selected water utilities under the framework of the Mekong region MDGs GoAL WaSH Project. In **Lao PDR**, capacity for 80 technical staff and officials on key performance indicators and other measures of effectiveness and efficiency standards of water utilities was enhanced and subsequently applied to 10 water utilities. In addition, the Nam Papa State Enterprise received the ISO 9001 certification and was the first water utility to get a certification of this kind in the country. Additionally, an assets and meter management Water Operators Partnership in Battambang **(Cambodia)**, helped ensure efficient and sustainable services for 145,000 people.

> In Africa, **nine water utilities**, serving a total of **20 million people**, are benefiting from implementation of performance improvement plans developed through Water Operators Partnerships.

Country achievements

Progress was made towards the improvement of policies and guidelines on equitable access to sustainable urban basic services implemented by partner local, sub-national and national authorities. In 2018, UN-Habitat supported government authorities in the development and implementation of policies and guidelines. For example, in water and sanitation, new guidelines were developed and are being implemented in **Egypt, Ghana, Nepal** and **Tanzania**.

In **Egypt**, the scaling up of River Bank Filtration units, which has contributed to improved access to water to more than 500,000 low income households, was informed by the published guideline manual and National Feasibility Study. Affiliated companies in Menya, Luxor and Beni Suef governorates utilized the report to identify and implement River Bank Filtration units and introduce low water tariff.

In **Ghana**, UN-Habitat facilitated the development of Guidelines and Minimum Standards for Resilient WASH Facilities in Flood-prone Areas as part of the Joint UN Water and Sanitation in Disaster Prone Communities Programme. The Guidelines will be mainstreamed into national policies and standards for the water and sanitation sector in Ghana and will also inform the design and development of resilient water and sanitation infrastructure in other countries experiencing frequent flooding.

In **Nepal**, the operationalization of the Total Sanitation Guideline, National WASH ACT and the Sector Development Plan helped to build a policy foundation for the Government and Local Authorities through the Global Sanitation Fund Programme, with support from UN-Habitat. In **Tanzania**, "Guidelines for the Application of Small-Scale, Decentralized Waste Water Treatment Systems: A Code of Practice for Decision Makers" was developed in order to foster an enabling environment for scaling up small-scale decentralized waste water treatment systems through effective dissemination, regulation and law enforcement. The Guidelines developed in consultation with

the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Ministry of Health and other relevant departments provide guidance on best practices for decentralized waste water systems in Tanzania.

In Kenya, a Start-Up Innovation Hub called *"Transformative Urban Mobility Accelerator"*

established by UN-Habitat in collaboration with the University of Nairobi and launched by the German Government, is supporting Mobility Start-Ups from Africa. In Colombia, the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga and its four municipalities have legally adopted a long-term Bicycle Strategy for the period 2019-2030, as well as the final designs

and terms of references to contract the construction of the first 20km cycling tracks defined by the Policy with support from UN-Habitat. This has created opportunity for expanding cycling as an important mode of mobility in this metropolitan area.

IMPACT STORY

Global Sanitation Fund improves access to sanitation in Terai, Nepal

Nearly 35 per cent of the world's population, or some 2.3 billion people do not have access to basic sanitation. With 892 million people defecating in the open, entire communities are exposed to the risk of diarrhea, a leading cause of child death, which claims the lives of 800, 000 children under the age of five every year.

Poor sanitation also has a negative impact on the performance of schoolchildren, economic viability of communities, and the dignity and personal safety of individuals in affected communities, particularly women and girls.

The *National Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan* formulated by the Government of Nepal in 2011 aims to establish appropriate systems and institutional mechanisms to increase sanitation coverage in a planned and coordinated manner. UN – Habitat and the Global Sanitation Fund of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council have joined hands to support implementation of the Master Plan.

Sanitation coverage has been expanded in six districts and six municipalities in five developmental regions, increasing overall national sanitation coverage from 6 per cent in 1990 to 99 per cent in December 2018. Of 5,395,620 households in the country, only 239,119 did not have toilets at end of 2017.

Terai region which is home to over 50 per cent of the population of Nepal had the lowest sanitation coverage nationwide. In 2011, when

national sanitation coverage stood at 62 per cent, it was only 13 per cent in Terai region. In 2014, the Global Sanitation Fund committed to support the Terai Sanitation Campaign, targeting 8 districts with the lowest sanitation coverage.

The campaign focused on consensus building by engaging a cross – section of stakeholders in its planning, coordination and capacity building efforts. An aggressive campaign to stop open defecation and market hygienic sanitation was launched and by December 2018 2,580,711 people had benefitted from the programme. Of the eight districts in Terai targeted by the campaign, three have eliminated open defecation totally.

Success of the Terai sanitation campaign is attributed to significant political commitment by local authorities and support of the military and the police. Innovative local financing of the campaign with donations from individuals, the use of sanitation cards, and support from forest user groups and women's groups engendered a sense of local ownership, ensuring programme sustainability.

The programme currently covers 12 out of the 20 districts in Terai.

Progress towards achievement of this
expected accomplishment is measured
through the indicator of achievement
below.

Indicator of achievement: Amount
and impact of investments into urban
basic services catalyzed by UN–Habitat
programmes in partner countries

Figure 4.3: Progress made towards indicator targets

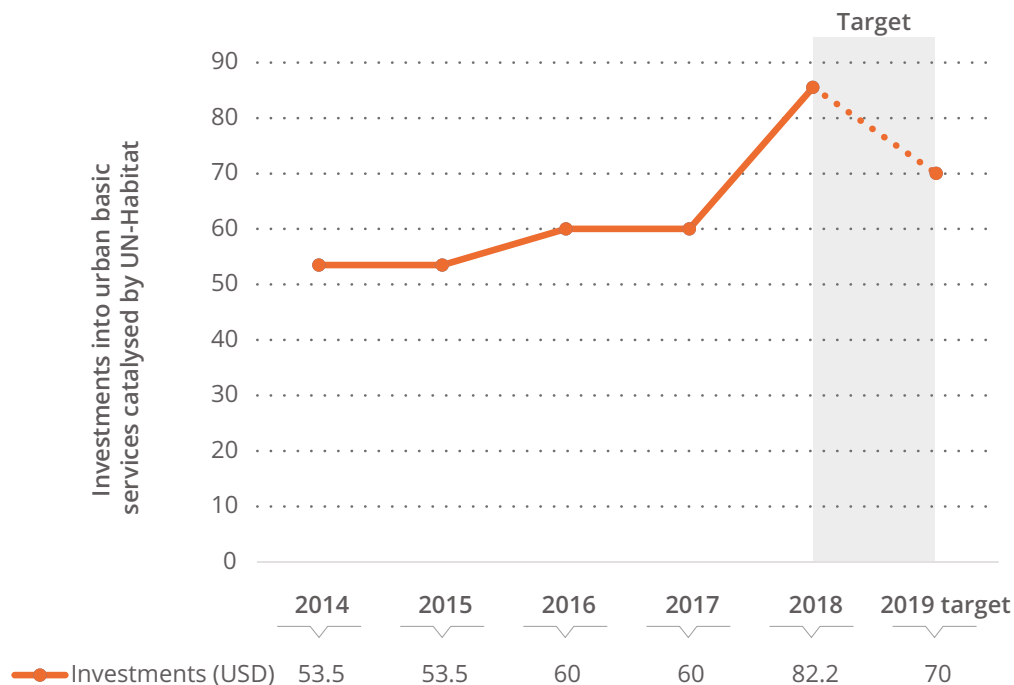|	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Investments (USD)	53.5	53.5	60	60	82.2	70

Figure 4.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 4.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 4.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018	
Investments (USD)	In 2018 there was significant increase as a result of a follow-up investment of USD 20,852,000 earmarked for UN-Habitat-led activities in Iraq

Country achievements

Significant improvement was made in the
amount and impact of investments into
urban basic services catalyzed by UN-Habitat
programmes in partner countries in 2018.
This is attributed largely to UN-Habitat's
successful implementation of its operational
programmes in partner countries, creating
an enabling environment for the promotion
of investments in urban basic services in
those countries. About USD 22.2 million was
catalyzed in 2018. The largest contribution
of USD 20,852,000 is the earmarked funding
from the European Union for UN-Habitat-led
interventions in 3 governorates most affected
by the conflict with ISIL in **Iraq**. UN-Habitat
support will promote housing recovery,
revenue generation, open spaces and urban
basic services.

In **Egypt**, additional funding of USD 403,000
was catalyzed from Coca Cola, Egypt, and
a further USD 477,000 by Replenish Africa
Initiative for improving access to water
with an additional USD 21,235 from the
Danish Embassy for improving cycling
infrastructure. In **Lao PDR**, USD 418,000 was
catalyzed from the Nordic Climate Fund to
support decentralized wastewater systems.

In **Somalia**, the groundwork undertaken
by UN-Habitat has acted as a catalyst for
investments in the Hargeisa water sector
by other development partners. In 2018, an
additional EUR 800,000 (USD 904,500) was
raised from the EU for the water programme,
while **Somaliland** Development Fund started
with the implementation of ancillary water
infrastructure valued at USD 2.4 million.

Over 375,600 people in
targeted communities had
access to sustainable modes
of transport because of UN-
Habitat interventions, **up from
251,000 in 2017.**

Expected Accomplishment 4.3: Increased coverage of sustainable urban basic services in targeted communities.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicators of achievement below

Indicator of achievement 1: Increased number of people in targeted communities with access to sustainable water and sanitation services as a result of UN–Habitat interventions.

Indicator of achievement 2: Increased number of people in targeted communities with access to sustainable energy supply as a result of UN–Habitat interventions.

Indicator of achievement 3: Increased number of people in targeted communities with access to sustainable modes of transport as a result of UN–Habitat interventions.

Figure 4.4 : Progress made towards indicator targets

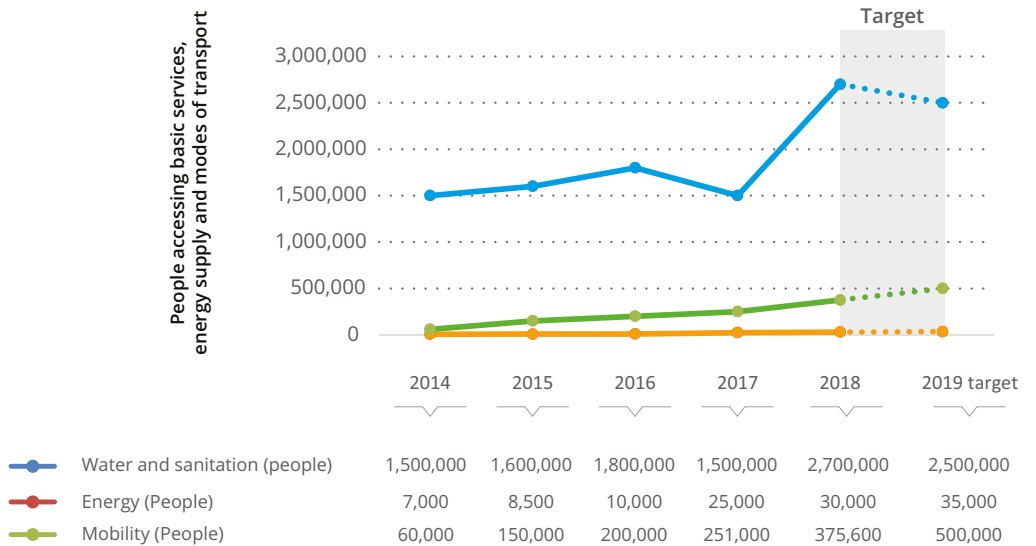|	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Water and sanitation (people)	1,500,000	1,600,000	1,800,000	1,500,000	2,700,000	2,500,000
Energy (People)	7,000	8,500	10,000	25,000	30,000	35,000
Mobility (People)	60,000	150,000	200,000	251,000	375,600	500,000

Figure 4.4 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 4.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 4.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Water and sanitation (people)	The increase was due to GSF Programme in Nepal (500,000), WASH Programme in Ghana (270,000, including 55,027 school children), **Iraq** (21,000), Jordan (120,000), MDG Goal WASH Lao PDR Project (4,738), Myanmar WASH Projects (177,135), **Nepal** (500,000), **Sri Lanka** (268,117) and **Tanzania** (10,000
Energy (People)	The increase is was due to the demonstration projects, capacity building programs and energy related national policies formulation and adoption in modern energy access, green buildings, energy efficiency practices and renewable energy technologies in several African cities
Mobility (People)	This increase was due to the 150,000 people benefitting from e-Tuk Tuks in **Kochi** (India) as part of the Urban Pathways Project and 10,000 people benefitting from the Open Streets and Placemaking events in **Ruiru** (Kenya), **Maputo** (Mozambique) and **Cape Town** (South Africa)

Through the Water and Infrastructure Development Project in Myanmar, **7,918 people and 1,429 households** in Shwe Pyi thar Township benefitted from access to portable safe drinking water and improved transportation.

Country achievements

Increased access to water and sanitation:

Significant impact in access to sanitation services has been achieved from UN-Habitat's work with partners. For example, in **Nepal** through the Global Sanitation Fund Programme, 3.5 million people in 19 districts have benefitted from improved sanitation facilities since its inception in October 2010. Open Defecation Free (ODF) status has been achieved in 12 districts. In 2018, 500,000 people benefitted from improved sanitation facilities and 1 million people are living in ODF environment. An outcome study of the Programme conducted in 2018 to measure the sustainability of the results of the Programme indicated that 95.09 per cent of households use toilets and only 5.8 per cent of households living in ODF local units are without sanitation facilities. In **Sri Lanka**, 18,117 direct and 250,000 indirect beneficiaries from plantation communities in the Nuwara Eliya District are enjoying satisfactory living conditions, safer settlements and better access to basic services as a result of an integrated programme funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency.

In **Ghana**, with support from UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNDP and WHO, 270,000 people, including 55,027 school children benefitted from access to flood-resilient water and sanitation facilities in 265 disaster prone communities in Northern Ghana. In **Tanzania**, through the UN-Habitat-supported Lake Victoria Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative in Mwanza, 10,000 people, including 32,952 school children have benefited from improved sanitation as a result of the completed pilot simplified sewerage system in informal settlements. Communal sanitation programmes in **Chad**, implemented with UN-Habitat support, in 12 communities have had a positive impact on the health of their populations. More than 82,000 people are now living in 150 ODF communities as a result of the Programme. The End-of-Programme Evaluation of the Joint UN Water and Sanitation in Disaster Prone Communities Programme undertaken in 2018 acknowledged *"The achievements of the pro   gramme in terms of improved health*

and privacy, reduced burdens (especially for women and girls) within such a short period."

Internally displaced people and refugees are a major vulnerable beneficiary group targeted in UN-Habitat's work of improving access to water and sanitation services as demonstrated through its programmes in **Iraq** and **Jordan**. In **Iraq**, 21,000 highly vulnerable Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) benefitted from water and sanitation support provided in Hamam Al Alil Camp in Al-Hatrah District, Ninevah Governorate. In Anbar Governorate, UN-Habitat established three low-cost core housing unit sites equipped with basic urban services including electricity and water and sanitation in Ramadi, Fallujah and Garma, benefitting a total of 2,766 vulnerable returnees. In **Jordan**, over 120,000 Syrian refugees in two camps, Za'atari and Azraq have access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.

Through the Water and Infrastructure Development Project in **Myanmar**, 7,918 people and 1,429 households in Shwe Pyi thar Township benefitted from access to portable safe drinking water and improved transportation. An additional 169,217 people and 36,238 households from 212 villages in Myingyan, Natogyi, Pakokku, Yesagyo, Mahlaing and Taungthar Townships gained access to safe drinking water and elimination of open defecation practices through increased use of latrines built by themselves.

In **Lao PDR**, 4,738 people from Attapeu, Sekong and Saravane provinces have benefitted from 8 small-scale water infrastructures built in 2018 as part of the Adaptation Fund Project. In **Egypt**, introduction of prioritized use of lower cost water tariff and environmentally-friendly River Bank Filtration Technology Units has improved access to clean water for about 500,000 people to date.

Increased access to sustainable Urban Mobility

In 2018, 124,000 more people in targeted communities had access to sustainable modes of transport because of UN-Habitat interventions, making a total of over 375,600.

This increase was due to 150,000 benefitting from e-Tuk Tuks in **Kochi India**; and 10,000 people benefitting from the Open Streets and Placemaking events in Ruiru (**Kenya**), Maputo (**Mozambique**) and Cape Town (**South Africa**) in 2018. UN-Habitat's pilot work in promoting Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) as one of the sustainable mobility solutions, is gaining traction in Africa as more countries have started to pilot the system. As part of the Sustainable Transport Solutions for East African Cities (SUSTRAN) Project, UN-Habitat finalized technical designs for BRT for Nairobi (**Kenya**) and Addis Ababa (**Ethiopia**), followed by a commitment for funding for BRT implementation between governments and financing partners such as the World Bank, among others. Addis Ababa received co-financing of EUR 85 Million from the French Development Agency for the design and construction of the BRT corridor in 2018. The system is expected to become operational in late 2020 and will benefit millions of commuters in Addis Ababa City. In Cairo, (**Egypt**) UN-Habitat is championing the introduction of a modern BRT system that will make public transport more responsive to the needs of women with support from the Government and UN Women.

Installation of 110 bike racks in three neighborhoods in the heart of Cairo (**Egypt**), accommodating up to 200 bikes has improved cycling infrastructure in the city and encouraged cycling as a sustainable mode of transport.

Increased access to sustainable energy

Through UN-Habitat's programmes for improving access to sustainable energy implemented in target communities a growing number of people who have been left behind in the main electricity supply systems are benefiting. The number of people with access to sustainable energy supply rose by 5,000 in 2018 and met the target of 30,000. In **Myanmar**, 2368 in 368 households from Muizawl, Suang Zang, Suang Sang villages, Tedim Township gained access to electricity through the Micro-hydro power project in Chin.

IMPACT STORY

Reducing commuting time and air pollution in East African cities

Africa's cities are set to double in size over the next 25 years as people move to find work and other opportunities. However, the lack of adequate public transport and traffic congestion n make accessibility to opportunities difficult, lead to loss of time and productivity and have a serious impact on the environment and on health. In Nairobi, the capital city of Kenya, air pollution spikes up to 10 times higher than the recommended threshold and USD 600,000 is lost each day due to traffic congestion.

There are now various solutions including Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems which involve road lanes dedicated to buses and features to reduce delays with passengers getting on or off. Between 2011 and 2018, the Global Environment Facility, through the SUSTRAN (Promoting Sustainable Transport Solutions for East African cities) project, has funded UN-Habitat and UNEP to support the cities of Kampala, Nairobi and Addis Ababa in their efforts towards planning and designing better public transport. In collaboration with partners, including the Innovation Hub of the University of Nairobi, the SUSTRAN project introduced cost-effective methods for planning Bus Rapid Transport Systems.

The results of UN-Habitat's work in 2018 are demonstrated by an increased knowledge and capacity of decision-makers to plan for and implement BRT systems, as well as the establishment and strengthening of Metropolitan Transit Authorities in the three countries as the coordinating agencies responsible for the development and operations of city-wide sustainable mobility systems. The result is evidenced by the technical designs for the BRT Systems being finalized in Nairobi and Addis Ababa – which led to commitment for funding for implementation between governments and financing partners

BRT System in Dar es salaam, Tanzania @ITDP

such as the World Bank. Addis Ababa received co-financing of EUR 85 Million for the design and construction of the Bus Rapid Transport corridor from the French Development Agency; and commuters will enjoy their first ride on a modern and efficient bus by late 2020.

The results from the SUSTRAN project are inspiring other African cities to work towards

modernized sustainable urban transport systems that generate tangible reductions in commuting times and greenhouse gas emissions. In Cairo, UN-Habitat, in partnership with the Government of Egypt and UN Women, is providing technical support for the introduction of a modern BRT system. Uniquely, this project aims to make public transport more responsive to the needs of women.

05

Housing and Slum Upgrading

Key achievements in 2018

1,600 households of Estate Workers living in substandard housing from the Central and Uva Provinces in **Sri Lanka** benefitted from basic infrastructure facilities for houses that they constructed (funded by the Government of India) using a people-centred community driven approach

350 families affected by Typhoon Yolanda in Barangay Cabalawan, Tacloban City, **Philippines**, were offered loans for site development and housing construction after UN-Habitat successfully facilitated the opening of new windows of housing finance at the Social Housing Finance Corporation, under the agency's Community Mortgage Program.

Through the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, four countries (**Madagascar, Cameroon, Kenya** and **Cape Verde**) formulated improved slum upgrading and prevention policies and strategies. The Kenya Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policy was adopted by the National Assembly in 2018. This is a major achievement and a key milestone that prioritizes slum prevention and upgrading in national policy and planning and has the potential to make a huge difference in the lives of slum dwellers.

60 war veterans in Wau State, **South Sudan**, were the first beneficiaries of houses built as part of the peace building process and reintegration of veterans. Successful use of UN-Habitat's participatory **'people's process'** in **Sri Lanka,** was replicated with beneficiaries contributing labour, materials, or money to cover part of the overall cost.
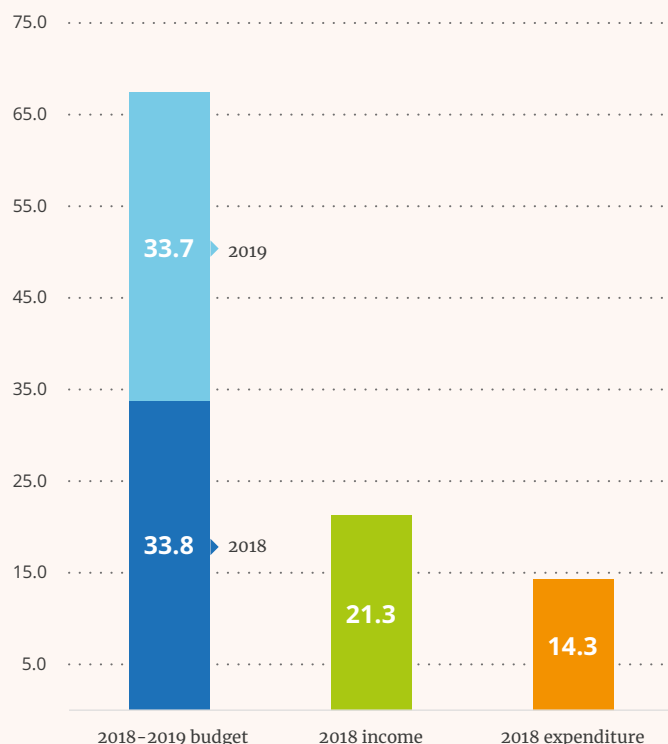
The Third International Tripartite Conference on Transforming African, Caribbean and Pacific Cities was held in Brussels as part of the of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme and was attended by representatives from 61 countries. About 36 participating countries renewed their commitment to improving the living conditions of slum dwellers through innovative financing and diverse partnerships through the Brussels Declaration and Action Framework.

Budget performance

Figure 5.1 shows the budget for housing and slum upgrading activities in the 2018–2019 work programme amounted to USD 67.5 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 33.8 million for 2018. The annual implementation level in 2018 of USD 14.3 million represents 42 percent of the budget while new income acquired in 2018 for the subprogramme amounted to USD21.3 million or 63 percent of the annual target

Figure 5.1: Housing and Slum Upgrading – budget, income and expenditure in 2018 (USD Millions)

Kukum Fishing Village, Honiara, Solomon Islands
© UN-Habitat/Bernhard Barth

Introduction

The role of Housing and Slum Upgrading, Subprogramme 5 of the Strategic Plan 2014–2019, is to support Member States increase access to adequate and affordable housing, improve the standard of living in existing slums and curb the growth of new slums in an inclusive manner. This subprogramme contributes to the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal 11, target 1, SDG 1 and SDG 5.

In developing countries, some 881 million urban dwellers were living in slums in 2014, partly owing to the ineffectiveness of land and housing policies, among other factors. Slums are a physical manifestation of poverty and inequality. In both developing and developed countries, urban housing, whether for rent or ownership, is becoming increasingly unaffordable. In developed countries, young people are continuing to live with their parents for longer as they cannot afford housing of their own.

In responding to these challenges and to contribute towards the reduction of poverty and inequalities, UN-Habitat's work in housing and slum upgrading supports all levels of government in formulating and implementing housing sector reforms and legislation that promotes progressive realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living for all. UN-Habitat also works with partners and all levels of government in initiatives that increase the supply of adequate and sustainable housing, upgrade existing slums and curb the development of new slums. The prevention effort is made as a strategic approach that places housing at the centre of city and urban policies.

Progress and Results in 2018

In 2018, UN–Habitat supported partner countries to formulate and implement improved housing policies, strategies or programmes, by raising awareness, enhancing capacities, knowledge and skills, assistance with developing and implementing policies and strategies.

Expected Accomplishment 1: Improved housing policies, strategies or programmes in line with the principles of the Global Housing Strategy and the promotion of the realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicators of achievement below.

Indicator of achievement 1: Increased number of partner countries that are implementing improved housing policies, strategies or programmes in line with the Global Housing Strategy principles.

Indicator of achievement 2: Increased number of partner countries that are implementing frameworks or programmes preventing unlawful forced eviction.

Indicator of achievement 3: Increased number of partner countries that are implementing sustainable building codes, regulations or certification tools.
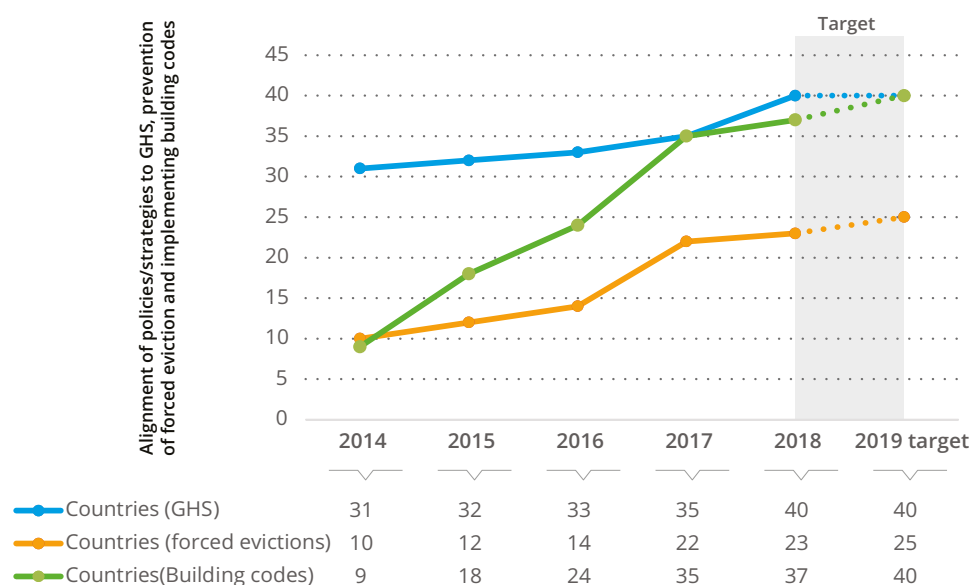
Figure 5.2: Progress towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Countries (GHS)	31	32	33	35	40	40
Countries (forced evictions)	10	12	14	22	23	25
Countries (Building codes)	9	18	24	35	37	40

Figure 5.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 5.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 5.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner countries (Aligned to Global Housing Strategy)	5 countries (**Bahrain, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Egypt**)
Partner countries that are implementing frameworks or programmes preventing unlawful forced evictions	**Somalia**
Partner countries that are implementing sustainable building codes, regulations or certification tools	The Government of **India** and the Government of **Mexico**

Country achievements

In 2018, five countries aligned their national housing policies with Global Housing Strategy, while others are revising their policies to benefit women and youth, indicating that strides are being made towards fulfilment of the right to adequate housing.

In 2018, UN-Habitat supported the Government of **Bahrain** to produce a **National Housing Profile** and made recommendations for the review of the National Housing Policy and Strategy 2022. The government is currently implementing a large-scale housing programme and has committed to build **40,000 housing** units for Bahraini families. Conditions for eligibility in some of the Bahrain housing programmes have been revised, giving opportunity for women and youth to own houses and apartments, a major milestone towards fulfilment of the right to adequate housing, especially for women.

Following the **Afghanistan** Housing Profile developed in 2017, UN-Habitat has assisted the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, to develop the National Housing Policy and institute measures to ensure that all Afghans will have access to adequate, safe and affordable housing. In 2018, the government has decided to develop a **National Housing programme** and is the process of negotiating funds through development finance institutions.

In **Mongolia**, UN-Habitat developed the Social, Gender and Community Engagement component to an Asian Development Bank led project that translates the existing **Ulaanbaatar City** Affordable Housing Strategy into implementable plans, investments, and institutional reforms, to increase the supply of affordable housing. UN-Habitat supported the development of the Poverty and Social Analysis, the Community Participation Plan, the Social Development Action Plan and the Gender Action Plans of the proposed project, and also provided training on "Housing at the Centre".

In **Sri Lanka**, UN-Habitat supported elaboration of the National Housing Policy intended to provide housing to 1,600 plantation households from the Central and Uva Provinces, living in substandard housing. The project funded by the Government of **India** provided basic infrastructure facilities to completed houses, using a people-centred community driven methodology, where Estate Workers Housing Cooperative Societies are the key drivers of project implementation. This project addresses the right to adequate housing, while ensuring that female headed households are prioritized for assistance and beneficiaries are now able to obtain legal land titles for their properties. The capacities of plantation communities are being enhanced for key decision-making regarding housing and construction standards, benefitting over 3,700 persons.

In **Egypt**, a new housing strategy was drafted, based on the published Egypt housing profile and in line with the Global Housing Strategy recommendations. The new strategy offers a shift to a more human rights-based approach. The country has previously adopted an upgrading process which restricts forced eviction.

In the **Philippines**, UN-Habitat implemented the second phase of the Post-Yolanda Support for Safer Homes and Settlements project in Tacloban, in partnership with BDO Foundation, Inc. and the Social Housing Finance Corporation for **350 families** affected by Typhoon Yolanda in Barangay Cabalawan, Tacloban City. UN-Habitat successfully facilitated the opening of new windows of housing finance at the Social Housing Finance Corporation under the agency's Community Mortgage Program. The community was able to access the new loan windows to fund the completion of 100 more housing units.

Four countries, **Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Cabo Verde** are currently formulating National housing policies, strategies or programmes with technical support from UN-Habitat. **Cabo Verde** is currently reviewing its National Urban Policy,

while **Cameroon** is engaged in formulating its national strategy for improving low income neighborhoods. In **Angola** the process of strengthening the national housing policy framework and institutional capacities is ongoing and the policy is expected to be concluded in 2019.

UN-Habitat supported the Government of **Cuba** to develop the document *Alignment of Housing in Cuba and the New Urban Agenda* that constitutes a valuable tool for the implementation process of the New Urban Agenda in Cuba. It reinforces the necessity for an urban policy focusing on the housing sector to guide sustainable and inclusive urbanization for the next 12 years.

In **Brazil**, the Alagoas State Government is currently implementing **"New Life in the Grotas"** (Vida Nova nas Grotas), an integrated platform for urban, social and economic improvements in the informal settlements (grotas) of the capital city, Maceió, which includes initial housing improvements.

UN-Habitat worked with the Norwegian Refugee Council and local authorities in **Somalia**, to support sustainable, safe and durable integration of internally displaced persons in Mogadishu and Kismayo. Internally displaced persons are benefitting from financial incentives for landlords, and vocational training and livelihood opportunities.

Mexico implemented sustainable building codes/regulations/ certification tools in 2018 with UN-Habitat support. In partnership with Infonavit, a certification tool for social housing, aligned with Sustainable Developments Goals, was produced.

To address the growing challenge of slum proliferation and inadequate housing and infrastructure, UN-Habitat continued to assist countries to formulate and implement slum upgrading and prevention policies, programmes and strategies through its Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme that operates in 190 cities in 40 countries.

Expected Accomplishment 2: Improved slum upgrading and prevention policies, strategies or programmes.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicators of achievement below.

Indicator of achievement 1: Increased number of partner countries that are formulating improved slum upgrading and prevention policies or strategies.

Indicator of achievement 2: Increased number of partner countries that are implementing sustainable and participatory slum upgrading and prevention programmes.
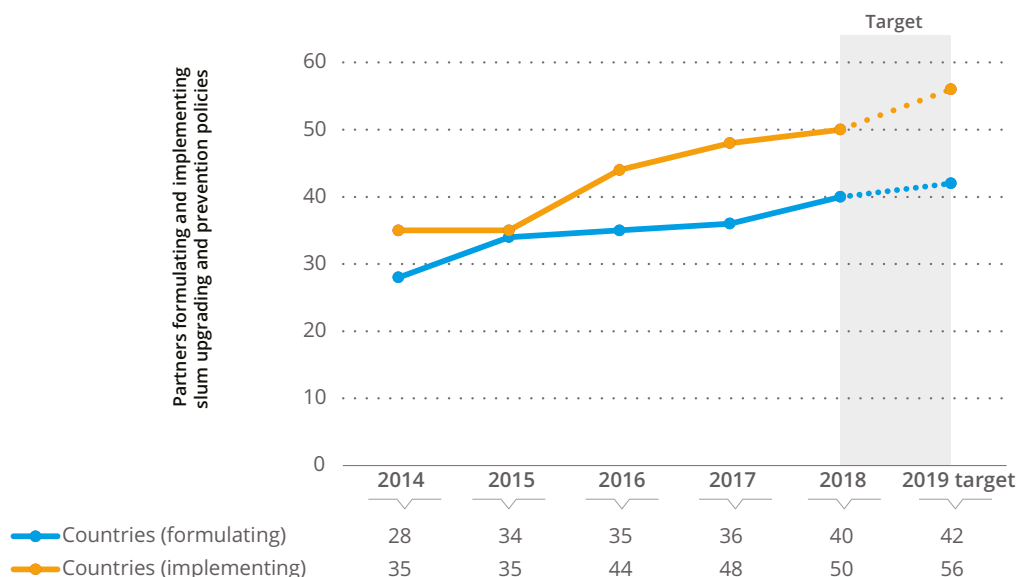
Figure 5.3: Progress towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Countries (formulating)	28	34	35	36	40	42
Countries (implementing)	35	35	44	48	50	56

Figure 5.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 5.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 5.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner countries that are formulating improved slum upgrading and prevention policies or strategies	4 countries - Madagascar, Cameroun, Kenya, Cape Verde
Partner countries that are implementing sustainable and participatory slum upgrading and prevention programmes	2 countries - Angola and Mauritania

Global achievements

In 2018, UN–Habitat in partnership with the ACP Secretariat, the European Commission (EC), and UN–Habitat organized the *Third International Tripartite Conference on Transforming ACP Cities* in **Brussels**. During the conference, the 36 member countries renewed their commitment through the Brussels Declaration and Action Framework for 2020 to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers by facilitating exploration of innovative financing and diverse partnerships at country, city and community levels.

Country achievements

During 2018, four countries (**Madagascar, Cameroon, Kenya and Cape Verde**) formulated improved slum upgrading and prevention policies and strategies. Adoption of the **Kenya** Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policy by the National Assembly in 2018 was a major milestone and achievement provides guidelines and facilitates mainstreaming of slum upgrading within the national policy and national development agenda. It also provides an institutional and legal framework to coordinate, undertake and finance slum upgrading programmes in Kenya's urban centres. UN–Habitat provided technical support to the drafting committee.

In **Sudan**, in collaboration with local authorities and other partners, 215 Housing units in 5 Darfur States were constructed using Stabilized Soil Blocks and 14,300 people, most of them been returnees benefited.

In **Burkina Faso**, through the PSUP programme, there has been notable improvements in basic infrastructure and livelihoods especially for women and young people, through the collection, sorting and recycling of urban waste. More than 14,000 slum dwellers have benefited from the programme.

UN–Habitat strengthened the capacities of slum communities to enable them to engage with national and local authorities through peer learning, workshops, and online tools. Thirteen countries allowed equal participation in coordinating bodies while four countries empowered slum communities to lead implementation of the slum upgrading process, demonstrating their strengthened capacities.

Newly paved streets for the community of Jamestown, Old Accra, Ghana
©Kirsten Milhahn/UN-Habitat

Expected Accomplishment 3: Enhanced capacity of slum communities to partner with national and local authorities implementing policies or programmes on access to adequate housing and improved standard of living in slums.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicators of achievement below.

Indicator of achievement 1: Increased number of partner countries that are enabling equitable community representation in coordinating bodies such as the national Habitat Committees.

Indicator of achievement 2: Increased number of partner countries where communities are empowered to lead and implement initiatives.

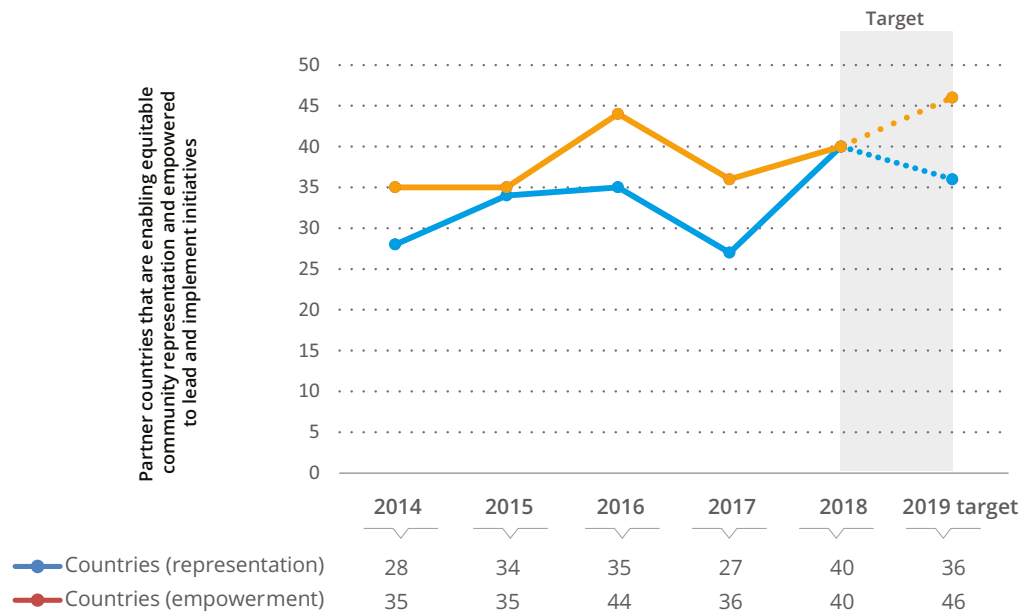*Figure 5.4: Progress towards indicator targets*

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Countries (representation)	28	34	35	27	40	36
Countries (empowerment)	35	35	44	36	40	46

Figure 5.4 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 5.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 5.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner countries that are enabling equitable community representation in coordinating bodies such as the national Habitat Committees	13 Country teams: Tunisia, Kenya, Cameroon, Senegal and Niger, Republic of Congo, Cape Verde, Lesotho, Botswana, Uganda, Madagascar, Democratic Republic of Congo, Benin
Partner countries where communities are empowered to lead and implement initiatives.	4 countries - Uganda, Congo Republic, Côte D'Ivoire, Madagascar

Regional achievements

An **online learning portal** was launched in collaboration with Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation will allow access to UN–Habitat learning materials on slums and participatory slum upgrading globally. The platform will deliver modules developed by Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme and promote wider knowledge exchange targeted and communities to strengthen their capacities.

Country achievements

In **Lebanon**, neighborhood upgrading projects were implemented in eight targeted neighborhoods which included, rehabilitation of public spaces; water, waste and storm water infrastructure; common spaces; and solar street lighting. Through the profiling, community committees comprising host and refugee population were established.

As part of the Peace Building process and reintegration of veterans in **South Sudan**, UN–Habitat facilitated construction of sixty houses for beneficiary veterans in Wau State. The construction process was done using a **'people's process'** (with lessons learnt from UN–Habitat supported project in **Sri Lanka**) where the beneficiaries contributed labour, materials, or money to cover part of the overall cost. Community members were also provided with basic training in some construction skills, along with the veterans, and this also contributed to social cohesion.

In Mongolia, 9 Community Development Councils and 160 Primary Groups were organized representing 1,706 local households. In addition, three business councils representing 279 local business owners were restructured and registered officially as legal entities. UN–Habitat enhanced capacities of communities, thus enabling them to participate in project land acquisition and resettlement negotiations for construction and social of infrastructure.

UN-Habitat strengthened the capacities of slum communities to enable them to engage with national and local authorities through peer learning, workshops, and online tools.

IMPACT STORY

Improving security of tenure and livelihoods for slum dwellers

Khadija Ali, a widow living on the Kenyan coast, was terrified that she would lose her home because she had no documents to prove ownership. However, thanks to UN–Habitat's Participatory Slum Upgrading Project (PSUP), she and her neighbours have not only gotten their rights, but the whole area has undergone a massive facelift. "We worked together with local government officials to get our documents," said Khadija, who belongs to one of seven youth and women's groups using Community Managed Funds, an innovative slum upgrading mechanism. The funds provide an opportunity for diverse communities to engage in upgrading activities and contribute to the realization of the right to adequate housing for women, youth and all.

In Mtwapa, a Community Managed Funds project has benefitted more than 12,000

households through projects implemented by seven youth and women's groups, responding to challenges such as uncollected rubbish, lack of basic services, unemployment and lack of property ownership documents. A partnership between residents, the County of Kilifi and the Kenyan Government with support from UN–Habitat has developed and implemented a slum upgrading strategy. As a result, the land regularization undertaken has enhanced security of tenure for the households and improved housing affordability across the county. The programme facilitates ongoing learning exchange for communities and local authorities to share experiences and reinforce skills, through regular consultations and engagement. The experiences are scaled-up across UN–Habitat's global programmes and through regional and country offices.

Innovative mechanisms such as community managed funds combined with tenure security transform communities by guaranteeing the right to stay which helps to foster community solidarity and pride of price. They also create jobs for women and youth, and cement people-public-private partnerships. Similar experiences from Kenya and other countries feed into the global Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme which is being implemented in 190 cities in 40 countries including Cameroon, Cape Verde, Iraq, Afghanistan, Liberia, Sudan, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Egypt, Kiribati, Samoa, Sudan and Ecuador. As a result, more than 5 million of the poorest and most vulnerable people have benefited from housing, public services, land rights and urban planning since the inception of Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme in 2008.

Beneficiary receiving an
occupancy certificate @
UN-Habitat

06

Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation

Key achievements in 2018

139 cities in 27 countries have used the City Resilience Profiling Tool to measure and strengthen their resilience to multi-hazard impacts, including those associated with climate change by the end of 2018.

City Resilience Action Planning tool (CityRAP) is being used, in more than **25 cities** in 21 countries in Africa, to assess city vulnerabilities and prepare action plans for city-resilience building.

Over 4,000 cities had joined, *"Making Cities Resilient Campaign"*, which is chaired by UN-Habitat, by the end of 2018, with commitments to make their cities resilient to risks and disasters.

35,200 school children from four flood-prone provinces in **Mozambique** have benefitted from the resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation of 450 school classrooms and water and sanitation facilities damaged by floods.

In **Iraq**, **about 6,000 people** have benefitted from **1,165 rehabilitated war-damaged houses** and the accompanying basic secondary infrastructure in areas liberated from ISIL.
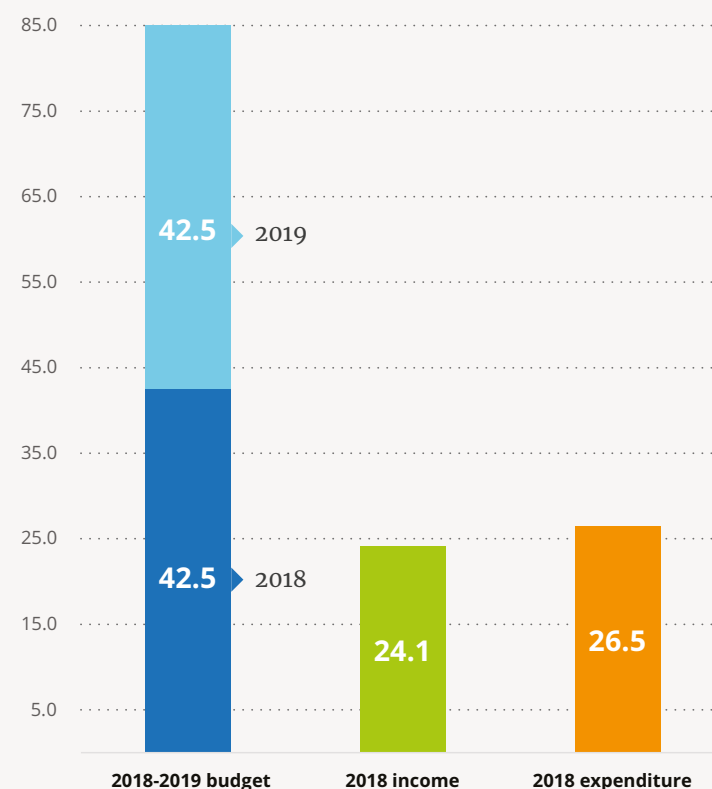
In **Sudan 170,000 people** benefited from upgrading and rehabilitating the existing health facilities and basic health services in Darfur 'returnee' sites while in Gaza Strip **(Palestine),** around 520 residents benefited from Housing and tenure security.

Budget performance

Figure 6.1 shows the budget for risk reduction and rehabilitation activities in the 2018–2019 work programme amounted to US$85 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 42.5 million for 2018. The annual implementation level in 2018 of USD 26.5 million represents 62 percent of the budget while new income acquired in 2018 for the subprogramme amounted to USD 24.1 million or 57 percent of the annual target.

Figure 6.1: Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation – budget, income acquisition and expenditure (USD Millions)

IDP Shelter Site.in Iraq @UN-Habitat

Introduction

The primary objective of the Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, focus area 6, is to support member states build resilience to the impacts of crises in cities, provide technical support to recover from crisis events. UN-Habitat advocates and influences the global community to strengthen urban resilience, as well as sustainable crisis response and recovery programming. Through this subprogramme, UN-Habitat is contributing to Sustainable Development Goals 5,11,13,16 and 17.

Global crises are increasingly becoming complex and multi-dimensional; interconnected across geographical and regional boundaries, cyclical, recurrent and increasingly urban and protracted in nature. The impact of crisis is, in most cases, particularly severe for the urban poor, those already exposed to chronic vulnerabilities, and the displaced. Many developing countries are unable to implement comprehensive preparedness and risk reduction programmes, including retrofitting their infrastructure, which leaves many cities vulnerable. At the same time some 68.5 million[1] people were forcibly displaced due to war violence and persecution and an additional estimated 244 million migrants[2] are 'displaced'.

To address these challenges, UN-Habitat focuses on reducing urban risks and on responding to urban crises through its Resilient Cities and Settlements Recovery programmes. This supports crisis-affected cities and other human settlements through disaster prevention and disaster response approaches, including support to displaced populations. To build resilient cities, a 'building back stronger' approach is taken, partnering with local governments to protect the safety of citizens functionality of cities and sustain development gains.

Some 68.5 million people were forcibly displaced due to war violence and persecution and an additional estimated 244 million migrants are 'displaced'.

[1] UNHCR 2017
[2] IOM 2018

Progress and Results

Progress was made towards the adoption of urban risk reduction policies, strategies and programmes for greater resilience of cities and other human settlements. The number of partner local, regional and national governments that have included urban risk reduction and management in their plans increased during the reporting period from 14 national governments in 2017 to 27 by the end of 2018 while for local and sub-national governments the increase was from 135 in 2017 to 139 in 2018.

> ***Expected Accomplishment 1: Improved urban risk-reduction policies, strategies and programmes adopted for greater resilience of cities and other human settlements.***
>
> Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below:
>
> **Indicator of achievement:** Increased number of partner local, subnational and national governments that have included urban risk reduction and management in their plans.

Through its resilience building programmes, UN -Habitat is supporting a growing number of partner local governments, providing technical support with appropriate tools (mainly the *City Resilience Profiling Tool and the City Resilience Action Planning Tool*), building capacities of key actors and raising awareness on resilient cities and human settlements.

An independent final evaluation of the *Urban Risk Reduction And Resilience Building in Lusophone Africa Project* (jointly implemented by UN-Habitat, UNISDR and UNECA) *conducted in 2018 concluded that* "The effectiveness of the CityRAP tool's implementation in the three countries (**Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and Sao Tome & Principe**), as well as the relevance of its methodology, has been confirmed by the project's results and impacts. Its unique urban resilience approach, an almost entirely participatory process, partly succeeded to spur a shift in local practices and approaches to achieve urban resilience objectives.[2]

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[2] Evaluation of The Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience Building in Lusophone Africa Project. Page 6

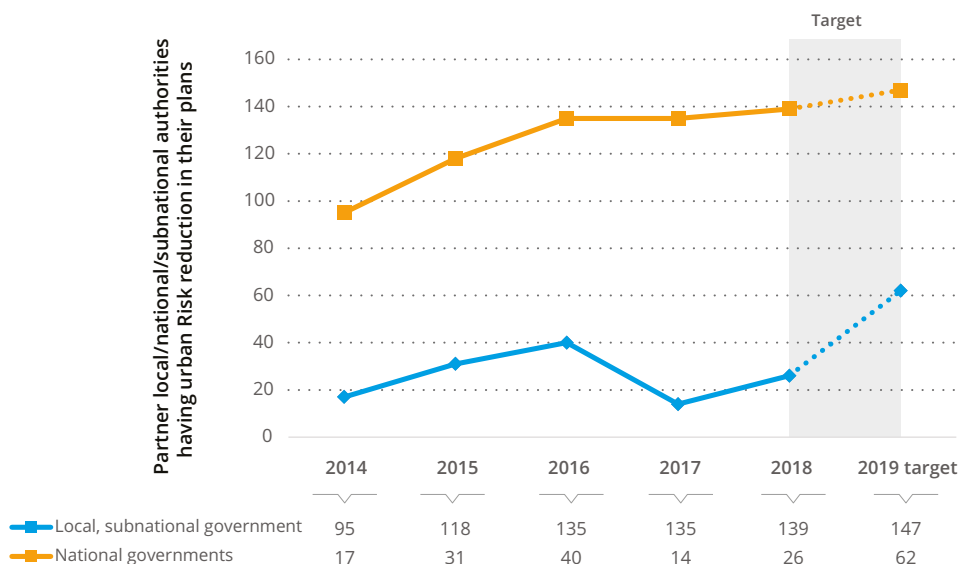*Figure 6.2: Progress towards indicator targets*

Figure 6.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 6.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Local, subnational government	95	118	135	135	139	147
National governments	17	31	40	14	26	62

Box 6.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018	
Local and regional authorities (5)	**Port Vila, Dakar, Asuncion, Maputo** and **Yakutsk**
Partner national governments (12)	**Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe**

Global Achievements

In recognition that awareness raising is critical for increasing stakeholder engagement and taking urban resilience building actions, UN-Habitat continued to actively engage in various global advocacy platforms. Global commitment to strengthening urban resilience has grown substantially over the past decade, in part, due to initiatives such as *the Making Cities Resilient Campaign, the Medellin Collaboration for Urban Resilience, the Global Alliance for Urban Crises* and the *Inter-Agency Standing Committee for Humanitarian Affairs*. To-date, the largest global campaign is the *Making Cities Resilient Campaign*, chaired by UN-Habitat, that had obtained commitments to build resilience from over **4,000** cities by the end of 2018.

Country and City level Achievements

At national level, partner countries are putting in place policies and strategies that promote the development of resilient and sustainable cities and other human settlements. In **Afghanistan**, the government

has developed a national risk reduction strategy to support safe, resilient and sustainable urban development in the country. The draft strategy was under review and validation by relevant stakeholders by the end of 2018. In **Mozambique**, sustainable urbanization has been given priority in the new five-year national development plan with all the goals integrating resilience aimed at reducing loss of lives caused by natural disasters and impact of climate change.

Through the City Resilience Profiling Programme, launched in 2012, UN-Habitat continues to use the interactive City Resilience Profiling Tool comprising **140 indicators** to support national and local governments in measuring and increasing resilience to multi-hazard impacts, including those associated with climate change. To-date, **139 cities** in **27 countries** have used the tool in their city resilience building efforts. In 2018, UN-Habitat worked with five cities which are at different stages of building their resilience. Two cities **Port Vila**, (Vanuatu) and **Dakar**, (Senegal) initiated resilience profiling (data collection, stakeholder mapping, training and analysis), **Asuncion city** (Paraguay) and Maputo (**Mozambique**)

finalized the creation of the profile and are road-mapping actions while Yakutsk City (**Russia**) is at data collection and mapping stage. In 5 partner cities, the local governments are using these profiles to train key decision makers and actors on resilience.

UN-Habitat's interventions through the City Resilience Profiling Programme is empowering local governments to become leading change agents for resilient cities through capacity building. In 2018, over **350 local government staff** and other stakeholders from the **5 cities** implementing the city resilience profiling tool were trained. The consensus built through such capacity building and implementation of action plans developed is helping reduce risk and increase prosperity for the 4 million residents of the partner cities.

The City Resilience Action Profiling (CityRAP) Tool was developed by the Technical Disaster Centre for Disaster Risk Management, Sustainability and Urban Resilience (DiMSUR) which was established in 2008 by UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Governments of Madagascar, Malawi, The Union of Comoros and Mozambique the Headquarters. DiMSUR provides, among other services, technical assistance to municipalities on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation particularly addressing the needs of low capacity small and medium cities as well as supporting national governments through risk-informed advice and recommendations to national policies.

The CityRAP tool is enabling municipal technicians in low capacity cities to conduct a quick and effective assessment of the city's vulnerabilities to help prepare an action plan. The tool was first introduced in **25 cities** of the DiMSUR founding countries along with Ethiopia, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Burkina Faso. In 2018, application of the CityRAP Tool was expanded into 12 more countries in the SADC region through the project "Strengthening Urban Resilience in South-East Africa". To-date, the CityRAP tool is being used in 21 countries in Africa supporting city-resilience building efforts.

Asuncion city, Paraguay
@Shutterstock

IMPACT STORY

UN-Habitat and partners breathing life into the Humanitarian, Development Peace and Security nexus in Mosul, Iraq

The fight to retake West Mosul, where ISIL fighters made their last stand in 2017, has left behind a devastated urban landscape, sabotaged bridges and flyovers, hundreds of destroyed schools, clinics and administrative buildings, thousands of heavily damaged houses and a mass of unexploded ordnance. In the Old City alone, it is estimated that some 5,000 historic buildings have either been razed to the ground or damaged beyond repair. UN-Habitat's City Profile of Mosul: Multi-Sector Assessment of a City Under Siege, published in 2016, contributed to a better understanding of how the city had changed since its fall in 2014. It also offered an unbiased analysis of several issues predating ISIL's takeover, such as the chronic housing shortage that forced newcomers to settle in informal settlements.

Since its liberation, humanitarian and development actors have converged on Mosul to rehabilitate housing, public facilities and infrastructure to facilitate the return of displaced people. Although over 955,000 people have made their return to Mosul, some 300,000 are still living in protracted displacement. To encourage return and contribute to the restoration of livelihoods, UN-Habitat has rehabilitated, through support from the Government of Japan, more than 600 severely damaged houses benefiting about 3,000 people in Zanjili, West Mosul, where residents are directly employed in the rehabilitation of their homes. In a nearby neighbourhood, the local authorities have granted land for the construction of low-cost multi-storey housing for 120 vulnerable families. UN-Habitat has supported home owners retrieve their lost property documents and assisted in the filing of compensation claims.

To avoid uncoordinated response, in 2018, UN-Habitat developed an Initial Planning Framework for the Reconstruction of Mosul to support the recovery efforts by the government. The document provides a comprehensive reconstruction and planning framework for Mosul, with a special focus on the Old City, focussing and prioritising on projects that support legal, urban planning and coordination in partnership with UNESCO. The initiative builds on a growing recognition that humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts are complementary and need to reinforce each other. To address sub-standard living conditions in informal settlements and assist the local authorities, UN-Habitat is piloting an upgrading project in the Hay al Tanak, western outskirts of the city. Community Development Councils have been established and are responsible for the identification of priority needs, action planning, mediation with affected households, and monitoring of results. When complete Internally Displaced People and vulnerable people residing in informal settlements will have increased access to affordable housing with security of tenure, and improved basic services (US State Department support).

UN-Habitat has launched two new initiatives in Mosul, funded by the EU: An area-based transformative urban recovery project in the Al Yarmouk / Maghrebi area integrating housing rehabilitation, upgrading of secondary infrastructure, retrofitting a school and the rehabilitation of the iconic Al Yarmouk Park. The second, also supported by the Madad Fund, will improve the resilience of host communities and IDPs through strengthened local governance systems and improved access to basic services, affordable housing and livelihood opportunities. These projects cross the humanitarian-development divide and use the Humanitarian Development Peace and Security nexus as a vehicle for transforming lives.

Over 955,000
people have made their return to Mosul, some 300,000 are still living in protracted displacement.

Expected Accomplishment 2: Improved settlements recovery and reconstruction interventions for long-term sustainability in cities and other human settlements.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below.

Indicator of achievement: Increased percentage of partner cities and other human settlements that have implemented sustainable urban reconstruction programmes including risk reduction.

Figure 6.3: Progress towards indicator targets from 2014–2018

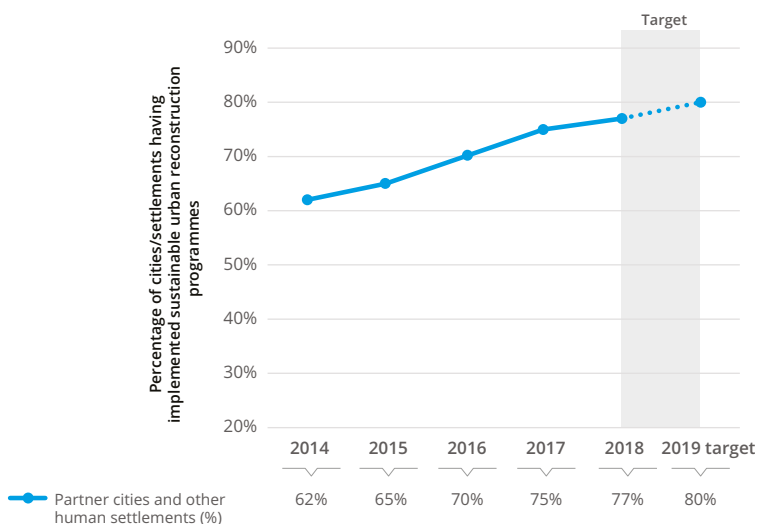|	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Partner cities and other human settlements (%)	62%	65%	70%	75%	77%	80%

Figure 6.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 6.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress

Box 6.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner cities benefiting from sustainable urban reconstruction programmes	Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iran, Iraq, Lao, Lebanon, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, State of Palestine, Zambia.

The capacity for long-term sustainability in cities and other human settlements in recovery and reconstruction has improved following increased adoption of UN-Habitat's strategies and approaches. The percentage of partner cities and other human settlements implementing sustainable urban reconstruction programmes, including risk reduction, increased from 75 per cent at the end of 2017 to 77 per cent, in 2018. The Partner cities and other human settlements that have implemented sustainable urban reconstruction programmes including risk reduction increased by nine cities.

UN-Habitat is actively engaged in settlements recovery efforts in **Lao, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan and Iraq**, facilitating recovery while strengthening resilience. It also supported rehabilitation of schools in **Zambia** and **Mozambique**, ensuring disaster risk reduction guidelines were incorporated.

In Mozambique, **35,200 school children** from four provinces (Zambezia, Nampula, Niassa and Inhambane) have benefitted from the resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation of **450 school classrooms and water and sanitation facilities** damaged by floods. This is a significant improvement from 2015, when UN-Habitat introduced disaster-sensible construction guidelines at a time when there was non-compliance of standards. In addition, 80 government technical staff and 420 builders and artisans were trained. This has strengthened capacity in preparation for scaling up construction of school facilities.

UN-Habitat has supported the Government of **Afghanistan, Iran** and **Nepal** in the development and application of building codes and guidelines for earth-quake-resistant infrastructure, especially in urban areas where maximum impact is experienced. With strong enforcement of building codes, impacts of earthquakes and recovery periods can be significantly reduced. As part of its goal to make **Afghan** cites more resilient, UN-Habitat is supporting the Government of **Afghanistan** to strengthen resilience in Afghan cities to the impacts of earthquakes. In 2018, 75 'non-engineered' masonry houses in two informal settlements were retrofitted by reinforcing for seismic resilience. Based on the lessons from this pilot phase, two sets of guidelines have been developed to support scaling up to all Afghan cities. Guidelines for identification of vulnerable houses and Technical Guidelines for Retrofitting non-engineered masonry houses were developed and are being used. In **Iran**, attention has been paid on building codes for health facilities where specific vulnerability has been highlighted based on assessments made after recent earthquakes, including two in 2018. In **Nepal**, traditional earthquake resistance building techniques are being promoted and 15 local engineers were trained in these traditional earthquake resistant techniques. This approach is motivating local communities to return to successful, historic building methods, increasing resistance to hazards and increasing resilience of communities.

In Palestine, **about 34,000 people (of which 21,111, women)** in Bethlehem city and the Aida and Beit Jibrin refugee camps have benefited from UN-Habitat support to the municipality of Bethlehem, assessing the state of basic services and promoting sustainable strategies for solid waste, waste water and drainage, and transportation management.

In Sudan **170,000 people** benefited from 4 Programmes implemented in 2018 through upgrading and rehabilitating the existing health facilities and basic health services in selected returnee sites in 5 Darfur States, supported by the Darfur Qatar Fund.

In 2018 programmes in **Afghanistan and Iraq** demonstrated some of the strongest examples of holistic and inclusive settlements recovery approaches, incorporating shelter, water and sanitation, livelihoods, tenure security and Building Code design, benefitting refuges returnees, Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and host communities.

In **Iraq**, through the recovery and reconstruction programmes implemented in 2018, UN-Habitat contributed to the strengthening of sustainable urban reconstruction. In collaboration with UNESCO, UN-Habitat developed the *Initial Planning Framework for the Reconstruction of Mosul*, providing guidance on how to 'Build Back Better'. The Framework highlights the complex challenges, promotes faster reconstruction and community engagement while protecting the built heritage and historical characteristics of the Old City. A total of 1,165 war-damaged houses, benefiting about 6,000 people, and the accompanying basic infrastructure, were rehabilitated in areas liberated from ISIL, i.e. Mosul, Sinjar,

Bartella, Bashika and Teleskuf in Ninewa Governorate, and Ramadi and Fallujah in Anbar Governorate.

Lao PDR– UN-Habitat contributed directly to improving settlement's resilience through (i) **climate change action plans**, developed to focus on identifying resilience-building measures that could feed into local development plans for enhancing community climate change resilience, disaster preparedness, land use planning, water resource management, and infrastructure development and (ii) **Housing and Settlements Post-Disaster Needs Assessment that assisted** the Government to measure the impact of the floods that took place between July and August 2018. This assessment helped to identify damages and losses suffered in 11 affected provinces.

In **Palestine, about 34,000 people** (of which **21,111, women**) in Bethlehem city and the Aida and Beit Jibrin refugee camps have benefited from UN-Habitat support to the municipality of Bethlehem, assessing the state of basic services and promoting

sustainable strategies for solid waste, waste water and drainage, and transportation management.

In Sudan 170,000 people benefited from 4 Programmes implemented in 2018 through upgrading and rehabilitating the existing health facilities and basic health services in selected returnee sites in 5 Darfur States, supported by the Darfur Qatar Fund.

Shelter rehabilitation programmes implemented in 2018 in response to humanitarian crises have contributed to sustainable and resilient approaches being adopted in a wide range of countries. The percentage of shelter rehabilitation programmes of partners contributing to disaster- resilient permanent housing increased from 60 per cent in 2017 to 73 per cent in 2018. UN-Habitat programmes contributing to disaster-resilient permanent housing were implemented in 5 more countries in 2018.

Expected Accomplishment 3: Improved shelter rehabilitation programmes in crisis responses contributing to sustainable and resilient cities and other human settlements

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator of achievement below.

Indicator of achievement: Increased percentage of shelter rehabilitation programmes that are contributing to disaster-resilient permanent housings.

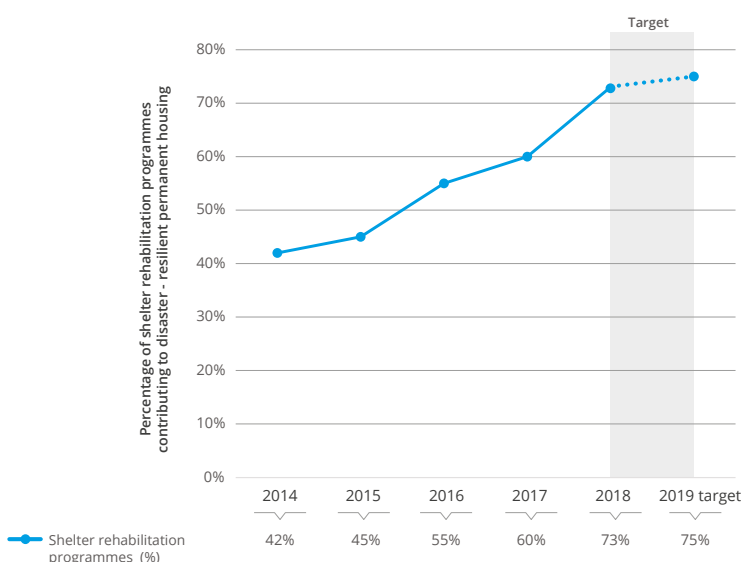*Figure 6.4: Progress towards indicator targets*

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Shelter rehabilitation programmes (%)	42%	45%	55%	60%	73%	75%

Figure 6.4 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 6.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress

Box 6.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Partner countries benefiting from disaster resilient permanent housing.	Afghanistan, Philippines Iraq, Lebanon, Mozambique

Global Achievements

UN-Habitat continued to play an important role in 2018 within the IASC Global Shelter Cluster, contributing to strategic planning tools development for urban interventions. Advocacy on 'Humanitarian – Development, Peace and Security' nexus, through UN-Habitat's community based and local authority engaged approaches, including the large-scale use of conditional cash transfers, all resulted in more community centric sustainable reconstruction. UN-Habitat's experience and expertise in the shelter sector has been highly recognized, not only at the global level, but, most importantly, at the local field level in countries such as **Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, Haiti, Kosovo Somalia and Sudan,** among others.

Country Achievements

In partnership with UNHCR, in 2018, UN-Habitat engaged in **Bangladesh** in support of the **Myanmar** refugee crisis, improving planning and water and sanitation in the Cox's Bazaar camps which are supporting over 909,000 refugees. UN-Habitat also supported **Kenya**, in the Kalobeyei settlement to improve integration of the host community and create greater community harmony though planning and shelter initiatives. In **Philippines**, UN-Habitat supported shelter and livelihoods recovery and the rebuilding of conflict damaged housing in Marawi City. Through advocacy and capacity building, there has been **acceptance and recognition of the 'People's Process'** as an excellent process to empower communities and deliver transformative change. In **Democratic Republic of Congo**, UN-Habitat's land projects are increasing security of tenure and acting as a catalyst for successful shelter recovery programmes and contribution to peace building.

In **Afghanistan**, under the Project for City Resilience, UN-Habitat supported the retrofitting of 75 houses, reinforcing seismic resilience of traditional non-engineered masonry houses in informal settlements as a demonstration project. Technical guidelines for 'Identification of Vulnerable Houses', and 'Retrofitting Non-Engineered Masonry Houses' were also developed.

In **Iraq**, low-cost core housing unit sites were established to accommodate vulnerable returnees and tenants whose houses had been destroyed. UN-Habitat established three shelter sites in Ramadi, Fallujah and Garma in Anbar Governorate equipped with a **total of 286 low-cost core housing units** and basic infrastructure.

Through the Myanmar Climate Change Alliance, several local adaptation interventions relating to sustainable urban reconstruction and risk reduction have been implemented for two townships in (**Labutta and Pakoku**). A Cyclone shelter, water storage tank, fencing of ponds, mangrove replantation, disaster resilient community alert center, improvement of drainage in flood prone areas have all been completed and handover to local government partners.

IMPACT STORY

After the pain of war: Reconstructed homes, schools and basic infrastructure in Sri Lanka

In 2018, the Sri Lanka post-conflict reconstruction programme was evaluated and recognized for its successful project 'Settlements Recovery and Reconstruction': building back better' post-crisis reconstruction programme. The 25-year-long Sri Lankan conflict, which ended in 2009, left more than one hundred thousand families, 350,000 people, displaced in the final months of fighting, and many thousands of casualties. Over one hundred thousand homes were destroyed and damaged, with most of the properties looted, resulting in loss of property and, in many cases, proof of property ownership.

The traditional response of the humanitarian sector would be emergency aid leading to the construction of transitional shelter. Transitional shelters at the time cost around USD 700 each and had a 'life expectancy' of about two years.

UN-Habitat was co-leading the inter-agency shelter cluster (sector) with UNHCR and decided to challenge the traditional Inter-Agency Standing Committee cluster response methodology of 'transitional shelter' and instead asked the collaborating agencies to consider more expensive, but durable/permanent solutions that would include 'building back better' and increasing resilience. Durable solutions, rather than transitional shelters help ensure that beneficiaries receive a 'development gain' out of the disaster which in turn contributes to peace stabilization.

The UN-Habitat proposal resulted in a policy decision from the Sri Lankan Government and a commitment from many other Member States to a 'Build Back Better' community-based approach that would empower communities, particularly women, to manage and participate

> This innovative approach quickly resulted in full community participation in the reconstruction of **more than 35,000 permanent homes** with associated infrastructure, water, sanitation, drainage, minor road reconstruction, construction of community halls and schools for over **200,000 people.**

in the reconstruction of durable homes. The UN-Habitat 'People's Process' methodology was employed, which empowers communities to take a crucial role in the reconstruction processes. The approach, which includes a strong cash-based technical support programme, was then replicated by almost all major implementing agencies.

This innovative approach quickly resulted in full community participation in the reconstruction of more than 35,000 permanent homes with associated infrastructure, water, sanitation, drainage, minor road reconstruction, construction of community halls and schools for over 200,000 people. The beneficiary selection focused on the most vulnerable, particularly women with children and people with a disability. Due to UN-Habitat's success in introducing the 'People's Process' methodology, the shelter/housing cluster (sector) later received additional funding from several more Member States, resulting in the construction of over 100,000 new homes for 350,000 people by other organizations.

Communities were strengthened, and housing and infrastructure was rebuilt by conflict affected families with women and youth playing a critical role. The programme effectively demonstrated 'Build Back Better' and the linkage of the humanitarian, development peace and security nexus. The result contributed to UN-Habitat's overall sub-programme objective 'to increase the resilience of people and cities affected by conflict and other crises and ensure that recovery actions lead to sustainable development'.

An independent evaluation (2018) highly commended the programme and concluded it had made a positive transformative impact on the lives of beneficiaries, increased capacities and demonstrated the possibility of linking humanitarian and development while contributing to peace, stabilization and long term sustainable urban development. It also demonstrated scalability and the linkage between operations in the field and 'normative' tools including Housing Land and Property initiatives. Lessons learned from this programme have positively influenced programmes in Afghanistan and Somalia.

07

Urban Research and Capacity Development

Key achievements in 2018

539 cities in **14 countries**, globally are implementing the CPI enabling them to undertake diagnostics, create baselines, propose targets and based on information, produce actions plans and policy decisions through participatory mechanisms.

336 urban observatories are using UN-Habitat tools, methods and data in monitoring urban trends and conditions at national and local authority levels. **10** new urban observatories joined in 2018.

65 national statistical offices are using UN-Habitat tools and guidelines producing urban data and indicators that support monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. 13 partner national statistical offices joined the network in 2018.

383 local governments and **30 national governments** have used UN-Habitat flagship publications especially state of cities reports, City Prosperity Index reports and best practices database for evidence-based policy formulation.
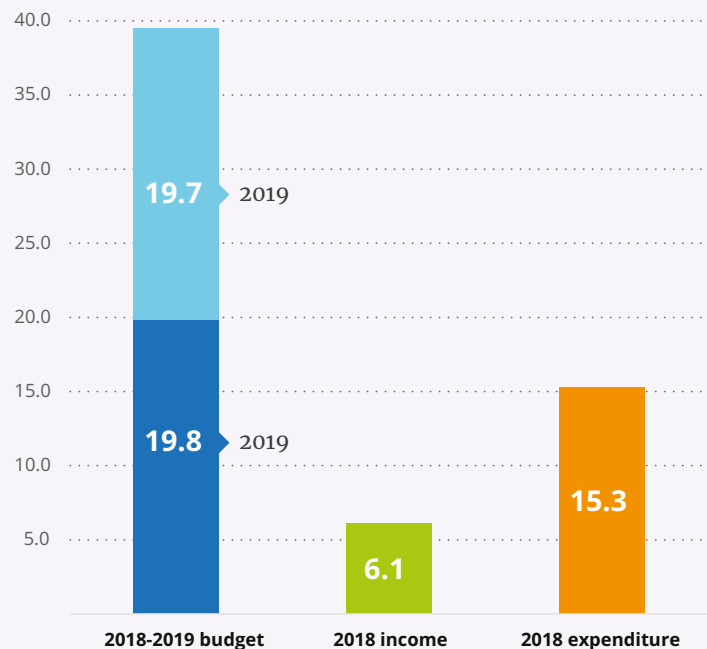
Over 470 mayors, decision-makers, policy makers and urban experts from **87 cities** in **52 countries** enhanced their capacity for the implementation and reporting on the New Urban Agenda and SDG 11.

Budget performance

Figure 1 shows the budget for research and capacity development activities in the 2018–2019 work programme amounted to USD 39.5 million half of which represents the annual budget of USD 19.8 million for 2018. The annual implementation level in 2018 of USD 15.3 million represents 77 percent of the budget while new income acquired in 2018 amounting to USD 6.1 million highlights the continuing challenge of securing predictable long–term funding for global research which is crucial for monitoring implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

Figure 7.1: Research and Capacity Development – budget, income and expenditure (USD Millions)

The new central business district in Gaborone in the South of Botswana with new construction, international commerce and governmental buildings after serious rainfall ending years of severe drought @Shutterstock

CITY PROSPERITY INITIATIVE

A global initiative meant to assist decision makers to design **effective policy interventions.**

"Collaborating to make my city a sustainable city is awesome, and there is no better source for a city diagnosis than the citizens who live in that city."

Igor Hemmings, a 25-year-old manager from the city of Caçapava, Brazil

Introduction

The role of the Urban Research and Capacity Development, Sub-programme 7 of the Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019 , is to contribute to monitoring and assessment of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and coordinate preparation of the Quadrennial Report on the follow up and review of the New Urban Agenda. The World Cities Report, its flagship publication, reports to Governments and Habitat Agenda partners, the results of its global monitoring and assessment. Sub-programme 7 transforms its data, research outputs and knowledge into learning products that guide and support Member States, local authorities and other stakeholders to formulate informed decisions for sustainable urban development. As part of the data revolution, the sub-programme develops the City Prosperity Initiative to support, data collection, analysis and reporting at the national and city levels, including support to local urban observatories. Subprogramme 7 also provides expertise in developing institutional and individual capacities of national and local authorities and other Habitat partners, and collaborates with other institutions in this endeavor.

A high percentage of cities formulate policies and action plans without clear evidence and information. It is estimated that as high as 65 per cent of local authorities both in the developed and the developing world, do not know how and why cities are growing. Knowledge of sustainable urbanization issues leads to improved formulation and implementation of evidence-based policies and programmes that contribute to management of cities and other human settlements in a way that leaves no one behind.

To address these challenges, UN-Habitat helps countries improve knowledge on sustainable urbanization issues and enhance their capacity to formulate and implement evidence-based policies, plans and programmes at the local, national and global levels. This is done through the creation of national and local urban observatories that use unified monitoring frameworks and standardized products that offer comparability of results. Training of National Statistical Offices and partners on the use of specialized monitoring tools such as the City Prosperity Index for spatial analysis, disaggregation of information, and best practices is a major area of capacity strengthening. Working with local systems of data collection, Governments can produce timely and reliable data for the monitoring and review of their own policies.

Progress and Results

Expected Accomplishment 1: Improved monitoring of global urbanization conditions and trends.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the following indicators of achievement
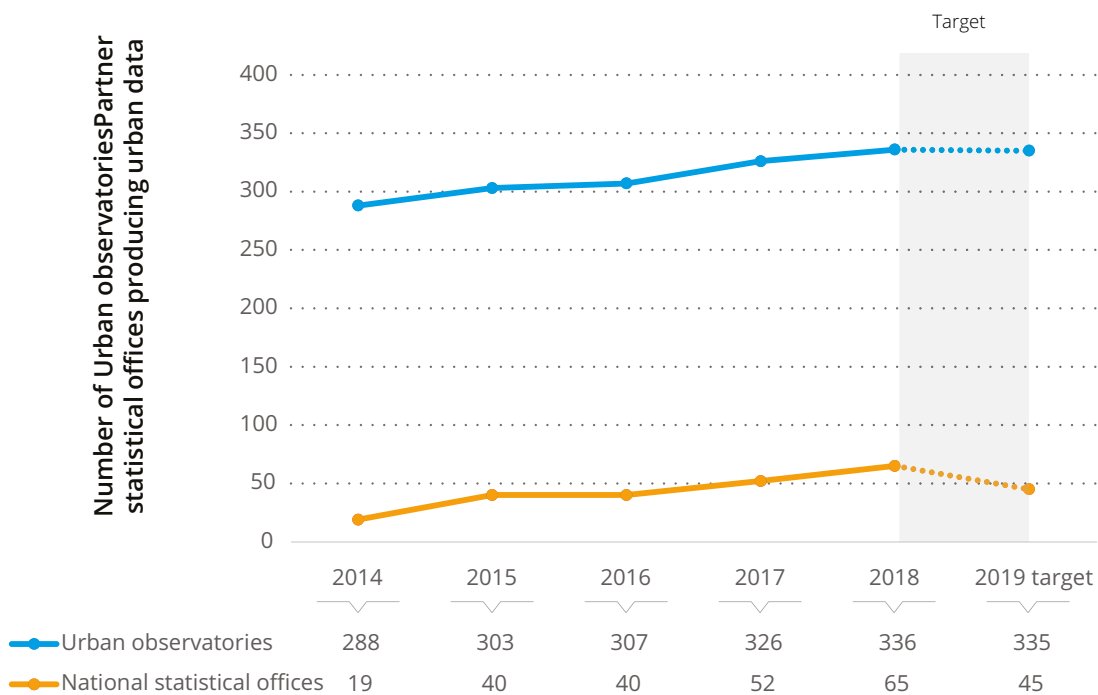
Indicator of achievement 1: Increased number of urban observatories using upon approval by appropriate authorities, UN–Habitat monitoring tools monitoring tools, methods and data

Indicator of achievement 2: Number of partner national statistical offices producing urban data and indicators to support reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals

Significant capacity improvement was achieved, in 2018, for local, national and global monitoring of urban conditions and trends mainly through the Global Urban Indicators Database, expansion and strengthening of urban observatories and national statistical offices as well as City Prosperity Initiative. Monitoring of sustainable urbanization has improved quantitatively with the increased number of urban observatories and qualitatively with the inclusion of new indicators and indices relevant for the assessment of emerging issues key to sustainable urbanization.

Figure 7.2 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 7.1 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Figure 7.2: Progress towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Urban observatories	288	303	307	326	336	335
National statistical offices	19	40	40	52	65	45

Box 7.1: Evidence of reported progress in 2018
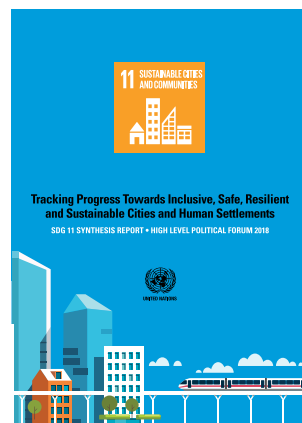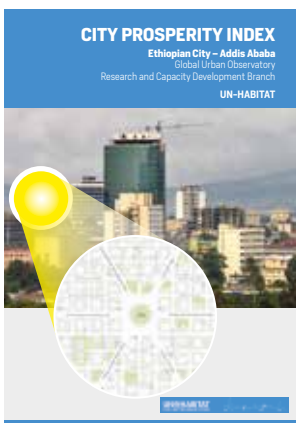
Urban observatories (10)

Cape Town, Johannesburg, Harare, Khartoum, N'Djamena, Gaborone, Tunis, Rio de Janeiro, Colombia, Saudi Arabia.

Partner national statistical offices (13)

Botswana, Colombia, Tunisia, South Africa, Malawi, Namibia, Thailand, Nigeria, Egypt, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Zambia

Global achievements

UN-Habitat made considerable progress and met the two indicator targets. The number of national and local urban observatories using UN-Habitat monitoring tools, methods and data increased from 326 in 2017 to 336 by the end of 2018. The target of 335 set for 2019 has already been slightly exceeded. The increase of 10 new urban observatories include national observatories for **Colombia** and **Saudi Arabia**) and eight local urban observatories in Cape Town and Johannesburg (South Africa) , Harare, (**Zimbabwe**), Khartoum (**Sudan**) , N'Djamena (**Chad**), Gaborone, (**Botswana**), Tunis (**Tunisia**), Rio de Janeiro (**Brazil**) that started using UN-Habitat monitoring tools, methods and data for monitoring and reporting on the status of urbanization.

The continuous capacity strengthening, support provided to national statistical offices has contributed to improvements in their performance. To date, 65 partner national statistics offices are using UN-Habitat tools and guidelines producing urban data and indicators that support monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. Global capacity for monitoring SDGs and the New Urban Agenda was significantly enhanced, in 2018, through the addition into the network of thirteen national statistical offices of **Botswana, Colombia, Tunisia, South Africa, Malawi, Namibia, Thailand, Nigeria, Egypt, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Zambia.**

UN-Habitat further strengthened capacity for monitoring urbanization trends, in 2018, through training of 105 national statistical officers, ministry officials, city level decision-makers, urban experts and practitioners from Asia and the Pacific (36), Africa (41) and the Arab States (28) using regional workshops held in **Thailand**, **Nigeria** and **Egypt** respectively in 2018. Participants were equipped with information and skills that support monitoring and reporting on urban related SDGs and the New Urban Agenda including the importance of a reliable urban monitoring and reporting framework; the need for more reliable, timely and disaggregated national, regional and global monitoring data; and use of the National Sample of Cities methodological approach and UN-Habitat's City Prosperity Initiative.

Country achievements

During the reporting period, UN-Habitat strengthened the capacity of national and local governments in the production of local urban knowledge through technical support to local and national urban observatories and statistical offices for the collection and analysis of data on indicators. For example, in **Argentina**, the Ministry of Interior, Public Works and Housing has created a Federal Urban Observatory which has facilitated the production of: i) an analysis which has helped inform the constitution of a national sample of cities to monitor urban development and; ii) an analysis of the existing indicators and institutional framework to establish a monitoring process. In **Angola**, the indicators for Goal 11 have been developed by the National Statistics Institute and published in a 2018 report with technical support from UN-Habitat in collaboration with UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA.
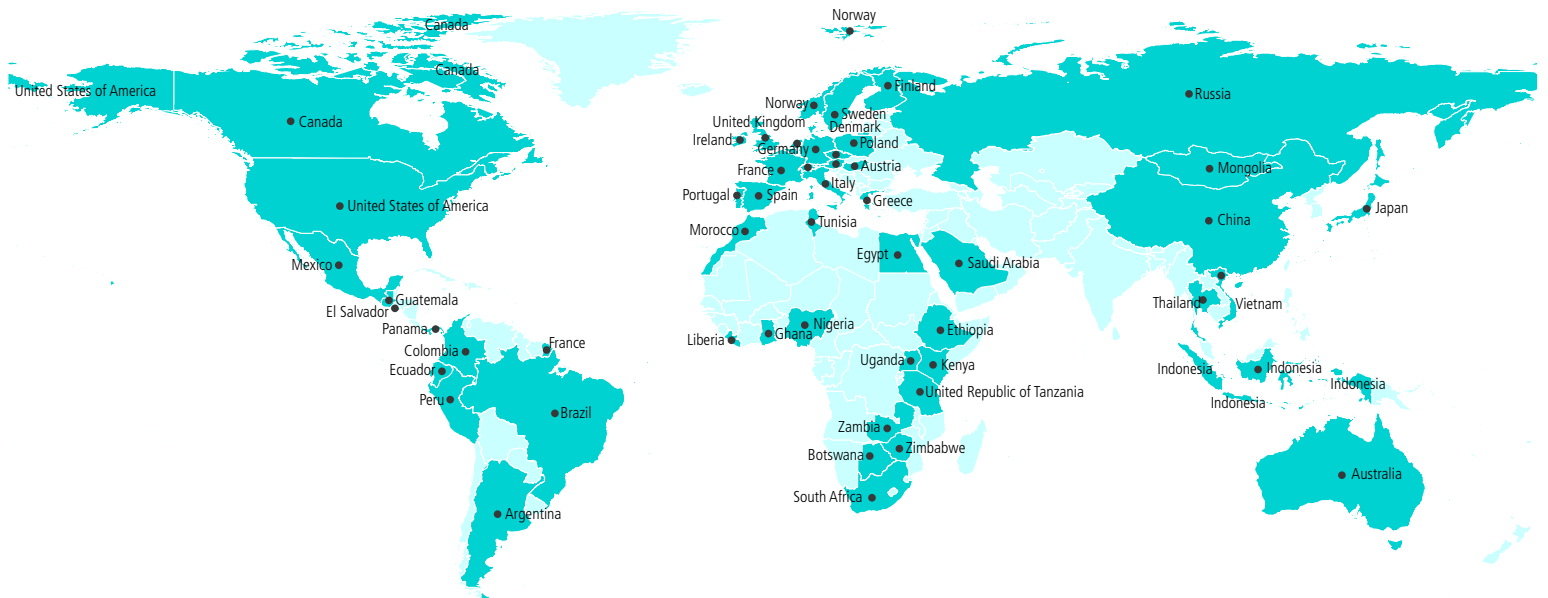
UN-Habitat contributed to the formulation and validation of the National Development Plan and the Five-Year Plan which includes Axis 4 on improvement of the living environment which is articulated in the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Urbanization in **Chad**. In **Egypt**, with technical support and tools from UN-Habitat, the Government has developed an integrated framework for monitoring urbanization. The framework includes sectoral indicators that enables Egyptian cities to report on progress towards achieving Goal 11 and implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The indicators focus on tracking changes in urban growth, housing, local economy, infrastructure, transport and urban mobility, environment and governance.

In **Libya**, as part of the recovery and reconstruction of the country, the Libya Rapid City Profiling and Monitoring System has been established. UN-Habitat's City Profiling Tool has been used in the collection and data analysis at clusters and sub-cluster levels on infrastructure/utilities social services; and households (disaggregated by residents and IDPs; and males, females and children).

The national statistical office of the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** is producing data that support reporting on the following SDGs: Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation); Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy); Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities); Goal 12 (consumption and production); and Goal 17 (partnerships for the goals). Data is also being collected on demographics (homes, households, population in households); services (water, electricity, sewage); transportation (Riyadh metro, two holy mosque trains); and infrastructure.

In Latin America, Metropolitan Area governments of San Salvador (**El Salvador**), San Jose (**Costa Rica**) and Santo Domingo (**Dominican Republic**), started using UN-Habitat monitoring tools, methods and data as practical tools for the localization of the New Urban Agenda and SDG 11. The Central American Bank for Economic Integration also started using the CPI in monitoring the impact of its operations.

Countries with CPI Data

IMPACT STORY

Monitoring Urban Prosperity and Sustainability in 153 Municipalities in Mexico

The three levels of government in Mexico (Federal, State, and local) did not have a mechanism to allow the analysis and comparison of urban agglomerations and their municipalities with reliable data so that specific action plans and recommendations could be made to impact the quality of life of their inhabitants. There was also no clearly reliable mechanism to measure the impact of government actions and public policies.

Infonavit, the largest social mortgage company in Latin America, has implemented a national strategy to measure the prosperity and sustainability of Mexican Municipalities using the City Prosperity Index. Infonavit, for its part, through this project has provided a monitoring system that allows us to inference to be made on the impact of large-scale housing programs in the country's urban centers. The first stage has covered 153 municipalities in the 32 states of the country (recently starting a second stage with

152 additional municipalities), encompassing more than half of the total population of the country and placing this effort as the most comprehensive of its kind in the world.

Using the City Prosperity Index developed by UN-Habitat, Infonavit has created a national platform to diagnose the state of cities in six critical dimensions of prosperity and sustainability: Productivity, Urban Infrastructure Development, Quality of Life, Equity and Social Inclusion, Environmental Sustainability and Governance and Legislation. Based on this diagnosis, Infonavit and the Government of Mexico are implementing specific action plans in each municipality to improve the quality of life of its inhabitants and Infonavit right-holders.

The initiative has already been presented and delivered to decision-makers in all the diagnosed localities and has been made available

to the public to all who wish to consult it. This makes Mexico the first country in the world to have developed this metric at this scale, to support decision-making in this matter.

The results for the 153 studies, which include municipalities with the highest urban growth, have been validated by the evaluated entities and extended to the 16 Political Delegations of Mexico City with the purpose of analyzing the intra-urban dynamics in the largest urban agglomeration of the country. Various other cities are adapting and further developing this methodology for the monitoring and evaluation of their own policies. This represents a clear transferability of the process that has also been extended to other cities and countries in the world. The conclusions and recommendations emanating from these studies are fully in line with the guidelines of the New Urban Agenda and respond to several of the thematic axes of the sustainable development objectives in cities.

Figure 7.3: Progress made towards indicator targets

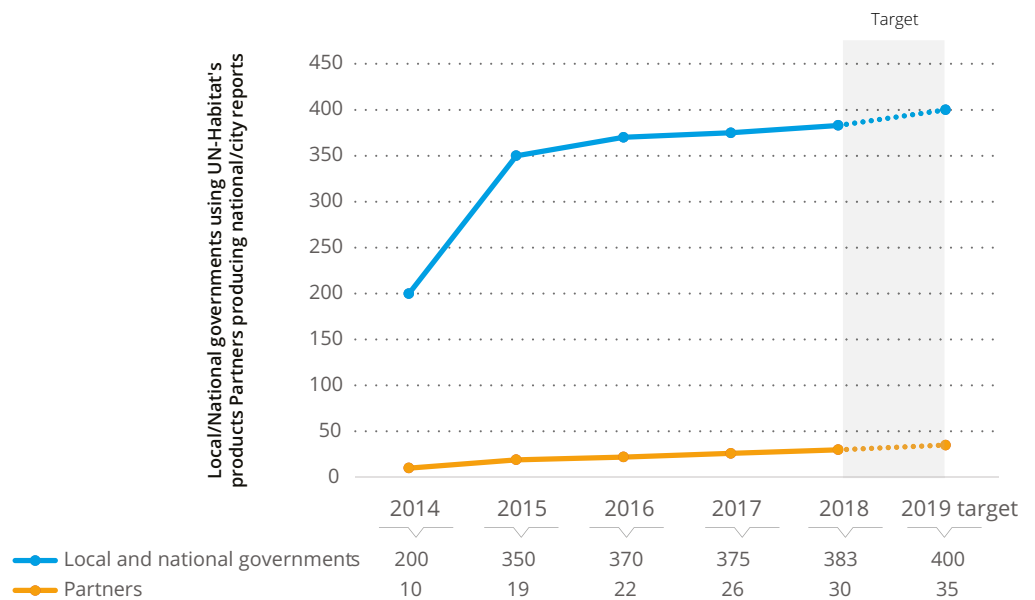|	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
Local and national governments	200	350	370	375	383	400
Partners	10	19	22	26	30	35

Figure 7.3 shows that indicator targets for 2018 were achieved and Box 7.2 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 7.2: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

Local and national governments	Local governments using UN-Habitat's products included: El Salvador, San Salvador, Planning Office of the Metropolitan Area of –POMASS, Municipality of San Jose, Costa Rica; and the Municipality of "Los Alcarrizos" **Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic,Wuhan, China and New Delhi, India.**
Partners	Reports produced in 2018 were: Saudi Arabia Cities Report; Pakistan Cities Report; Sri Lankan Cities Report; State of African Cities Report 2018

Global achievements

Global overview of urbanization trends and conditions has improved through the first reviews undertaken on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and progress towards achievement of SDG Goal 11. A major milestone was achieved towards United Nations system-wide collaboration and global reporting on sustainable urbanization, involving various partners and stakeholders. The Secretary-General's Report on the Implementation of the NUA, known as the *Quadrennial Report*, was produced and presented to the General Assembly by UN-Habitat in May 2018. This report was prepared in consultation with 23 United Nations entities, the 5-regional economic and social commissions and over 30 development and research partners. The report provides qualitative and quantitative analysis of the progress made on implementation of the New Urban Agenda. It also recommends steps to ensure successful production of subsequent reports until 2036.

UN-Habitat produced the first report on Goal 11 entitled *"Tracking Progress Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements: SDG Synthesis Report"*. This report was reviewed during the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2018 and shows with compelling evidence the connection of urbanization to other development goals and presents the state of the agreed indicators and progress made on the Goal 11 indicators. The production of this report put in evidence the importance of strengthening the UN System collaboration in the monitoring and reporting on sustainable urban development.

It has been noted that for the period 2017–2018, many countries that participated in UN-Habitat capacity building workshops were able to produce urban data and report progress on implementation of the urban related SDGs at the national and global levels through the Voluntary National Review reports that were submitted as part of the annual High-Level Political Forum[1]

[1] https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/

Regional and Country Achievements

The regional and country state of cities reports provide a comprehensive view and analysis on the state of cities through a regional and local lens. These reports identify information and data gaps, challenges and opportunities for sustainable development, and contribute to enrich local and regional information and knowledge to support evidence-based policy decisions. The Reports are widely accepted and demanded, with an increased number of new publications by 2018. Three Member States as well as various cities produced their own reports to assess progress in the implementation of the global agendas in their own territory, particularly with regards to NUA and SDGs urban.

a. *The State of African Cities Report 2018* links urbanization to sustainable national development by providing credible options for poverty alleviation and inequality and exclusion reduction.

b. *The State of Pakistani Cities Report 2018* depicts the current state of cities in various development sectors, presenting the most relevant trends and conditions, understanding data limitations.

c. *The State of Sri Lankan Cities 2018 report* presents the first comprehensive assessment of Sri Lanka's recent urban development.

d. *The State of Saudi Cities Report 2018,* presents an assessment of the country's governance structure and reveals certain features that may impede sustainable and inclusive urban development.

Evidence-based sustainable urbanization policy formulation at local level has improved significantly as demonstrated by the number of sustainable urbanization knowledge products by partners at local and metropolitan levels. Application of UN-Habitat's City Prosperity Initiative is a key driver in this trend. A growing number of national and local governments are using the CPI to guide policy decisions on implementation and assessing progress in the implementation of the urban Sustainable

Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. By 2018, more than 530 cities or urban agglomerations in more than 50 countries had joined the City Prosperity Initiative worldwide. In **Mexico**, UN-Habitat partnered with Infonavit in the scaling up City Prosperity Index CPI implementation to national level. The basic City Prosperity Index has been calculated for 305 cities representing 90 percent of the country's urban population. Several municipalities are using the City Prosperity Index municipal reports as a basis for developing their Municipal Development Plans and Urban Development Programmes. The Dubai Awards recognized this tremendous effort as a best practice in the category of Monitoring the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs.

In **El Salvador, Costa Rica and Dominican Republic** the CPI methodology has been used to produce state of cities reports that are being used to inform policy formulation in San Salvador, San Jose, and the Municipality of Los Alcarrizos. The State of San Salvador Metropolitan Area Report; the State of San Jose Metropolitan Area Report; and the State of Santo Domingo Metropolitan Area Report provided for the first time a complete vision of these territories based on the application of the City Prosperity Index. The City Prosperity Index has also facilitated the identification and pre-feasibility of integral, an urban operation that responds to identified challenges and opportunities in each targeted metropolitan area. In addition, the State of the Bogota Urban Localities

By 2018, more than 530 cities or urban agglomerations in more than 50 countries had joined the City Prosperity Initiative worldwide.

Mexico City, Mexico @ Shutterstock

Prosperity Report was also prepared using the City Prosperity Index methodology. It provides Bogota's local authorities with an updated description and analysis of the development conditions and opportunities of its 19 urban localities that is informing policy decisions on sustainable and equitable urban development.

In **China**, the Wuhan Municipal Government, implemented the Wuhan City Prosperity Initiative. The city prosperity data collected and analyzed is being used in monitoring the development status of Wuhan City, with support of UN-Habitat. In the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, local urban observatories and the General Authority of Statistics used the City Prosperity Index in the production of 8 City Prosperity Index reports in cooperation with local urban observatories through which, 55 City Prosperity Index indicators out of 72 have been collected.

The customized City Prosperity Index in **Ethiopia** led to the development of a Cities Performance Measurement Framework for enhancing the capacity of the national and local authorities to better measure the implementation of urban policies and plans. The framework which has been tested in two cities and is being scaled up to other cities, will help to give up-to-date information to the partners and monitor the effectiveness of their interventions in contributing to the achievement of the Ethiopian Cities Sustainable Prosperity Goals. Detailed and disaggregated baseline and performance data will be available to government institutions, donors and development partners.

UN-Habitat, in partnership with the Ministry of Planning, **Iraq**, developed the Recovery, Reconstruction and Resilience Data Platform which supports the Government in evidence-based decision making on recovery and reconstruction in the liberated areas. It provides up-to-date Geographical Information System for collecting information on recovery and reconstruction activities in 17 targeted liberated cities. The platform has contributed to the formulation of the Iraq Housing Reconstruction Strategy, and provides a holistic and integrated approach for the reconstruction of Mosul. In **Libya**, the Ministry of Planning has developed geo-databases and thematic maps for six municipalities that are being used in strategic and local decision-making at the city and neighborhood levels.

Aerial view of wuhan city,China @ Shutterstock

By 2018, more than **530 cities** or urban agglomerations in more than 50 countries had joined the City Prosperity Initiative worldwide.
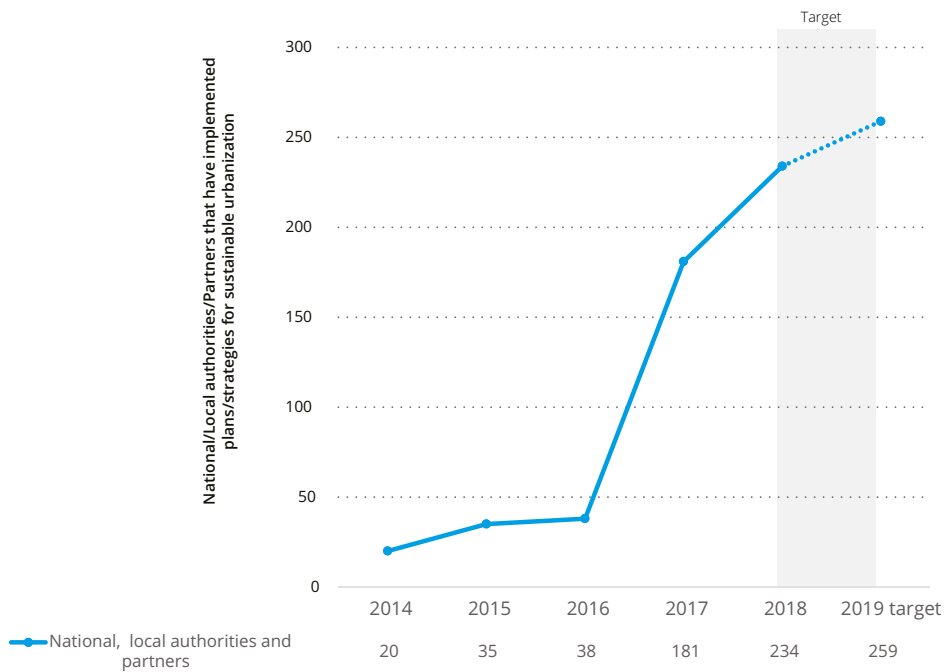
Expected Accomplishment 3: Improved capacity of national and local authorities and partners to implement plans or strategies for sustainable urbanization.

Progress towards achievement of this expected accomplishment is measured through the indicator below.

Indicator of Achievement: Increased number of national and local authorities and partners that have implemented plans or strategies for sustainable urbanization

UN–Habitat's capacity building programme has expanded significantly and is contributing to strengthened capacities of governments in the implementation of SDGS especially Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda. In 2018, decision makers and technical cadre of national and local governments from 52 countries and 87 cities had their knowledge and skills enhanced for supporting the localization of the SDG11 in cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The training focused on methodologies and design of indicators, the planning, implementation and reporting on SDG11 and the New Urban Agenda. UN–Habitat's Global Urban Lectures, delivered by renowned urbanization experts, are also contributing to capacity strengthening for more effective implementation of sustainable urbanization policies and programmes. The urban lectures were viewed by over 166,000 people in more than 65 countries in 2018.

Figure 7.4: Progress made towards indicator targets

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 target
National, local authorities and partners	20	35	38	181	234	259

UN-Habitat's capacity building programme has expanded significantly and is contributing to strengthened capacities of governments **in the implementation of SDGS especially Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda.**

Figure 7.4 shows that indicator target for 2018 was met and Box 7.3 provides evidence supporting reported progress.

Box 7.3: Evidence of reported progress in 2018

National and local authorities and partners (52)   Africa: 15; Asia-Pacific: 13; Arab States: 2; Latin America and the Caribbean: 21; Europe: 1

Country achievements

In **Brazil**, UN-Habitat in partnership with a local organization, Colab launched a mobile app for public urban consultation on living conditions in Brazilian cities that also supports participatory monitoring of urban governance.

In **Lao PDR**, UN-Habitat supported the Ministry of Public Works and Transport to implement the National Urban Development strategy, ensuring that the solid waste management development plan responds to real needs and conditions. Municipal solid waste management awareness campaigns and seminars were conducted in 9 Districts in **Vientiane** City during 2018. In **Lebanon**, five cities; Tripoli, Saida, Tyre, Baalbeck and Zahle are implementing plans and strategies for sustainable urbanization as a result of capacity strengthening from UN-Habitat and partners.

The Ministry of Municipality and Rural Affairs, in the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, supported by UN-Habitat, conducted two training courses (International guidelines of urban and territorial planning; and urban data monitoring) and three tailor-made programs (Urban design for medium and small cities; women and youth urban lab; and sustainable urban transportation) to more than 150 municipal technical staff. The Ministry implemented more than 10 city profile stakeholder engagement workshops for more than 300 participants.

In 2018, UN-Habitat facilitated the preparation of four Habitat Country Programme Documents for **Pakistan**, (2018-2022); **Sudan**, (2018-2021); **Palestine** (2018-2022) and **Kenya**. These critical documents provide a framework for UN-Habitat's engagement with national and local governments, as well as key stakeholders, in line with UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan with clear linkages with national development plans, United Nations Development Assistance Framework and Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda.

IMPACT STORY

Citizens hold urban leaders accountable through an innovative mobile application: Brazil

Citizens in **Brazil** are holding urban leaders accountable through wide consultations on transparency, accountability and progress on implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 11. Brazil has witnessed rapid urbanization since the mid-twentieth century. In 1950, only about 36.5 per cent of the population lived in urban areas, compared to 87.7 per cent in 2015. The trend is projected to continue, and by 2030, an estimated 90.5 per cent of the Brazilian population is expected to live in urban areas. To address the challenges of unplanned and rapid urbanization, decision-making processes should be consultative and inclusive, as the needs and desires of citizens vary greatly.

In 2018, UN-Habitat delivered training programmes and capacity building workshops in support of the localization of SDG11 in cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America which targeted decision makers and technical cadre of national and local governments and staff of National Statistical Commissions. The training focused on planning, implementation and reporting on SDG11 and the New Urban Agenda, As a result of the improved capacity, knowledge and skills, **Colab, a Brazilian organization**, in collaboration with UN-Habitat developed a **mobile phone-based application** that enables citywide and nationwide public consultation on the citizens' views and perceptions on the degree to which the targets of the SDG11 have been achieved in their cities. It demonstrates an innovative way to engage citizens, create awareness of sustainable cities policies and Agenda 2030, in addition to gathering data to support a dialogue with municipal governments for policy change. The application launched in October 2018 has been endorsed by the National Federation of Municipalities in Brazil-FNM, facilitating greater engagement of citizens in the country.

Cities have accepted to be held to account

The city of Belo Horizonte adopted the application for its city consultation, and the city of Niterói expanded the use of the application to engage citizens in its sustainable cities' policies and is currently leading in the number of citizens engaged. The TV Globo highlighted this initiative on national TV and called upon residents to voice their views on their city development. *"I really believe that if you know the real needs of the population, authorities will be able to make decisions more assertively."* Igor Hemmings, a 25-year-old manager from the city of Caçapava who participated in the consultation, continues: *"Collaborating to make my city a sustainable city is awesome, and there is no better source for a city diagnosis than the citizens who live in that city."* This innovation contributes towards the planned result for 2018, *"improved monitoring of global urbanization conditions and trends"*, which has seen 335 urban observatories globally, using UN-Habitat monitoring tools, methods and data in 2018.

Innovative mobile phone-based application facilitating citizen's monitoring of their cities

Regional Highlights

This section presents an overview of UN-Habitat's focus and major areas where member states are being supported in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, Sustainable Development Goal 11 and other urban related SDGs. The details and specific results and impact at country level have been presented under each thematic section for each subprogramme.

UN-Habitat's normative and operational work has a global reach with interventions that are impacting over 80 countries. Most of our work is delivered at the national and local levels mainly through four regional offices in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Arab States and Latin America and the Caribbean. Around 83 per cent of new income acquired in 2018 was for technical cooperation activities at regional or country level.

The Asia Pacific region recorded the highest income of USD 79.2 million or 44 per cent of total funding. The countries and territories that received the largest amount from new funding include Afghanistan, Philippines, Mongolia, Solomon Islands and Fiji in the Asia Pacific region; Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Palestinian Territory and Lebanon in Arab States; Ethiopia, Malawi, Somalia and Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa; Colombia, Haiti, Ecuador, Cuba and Mexico in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Kosovo in Eastern Europe.

The overall thematic areas of focus for each region varies depending on the sustainable urbanization and human settlements related priority issues affecting each region that member states want to address. These have been articulated in the regional strategies each region developed for the implementation of the 2014-2019 strategic plan.

A view of a slum and a cable car in Medellín, Colombia. 2012
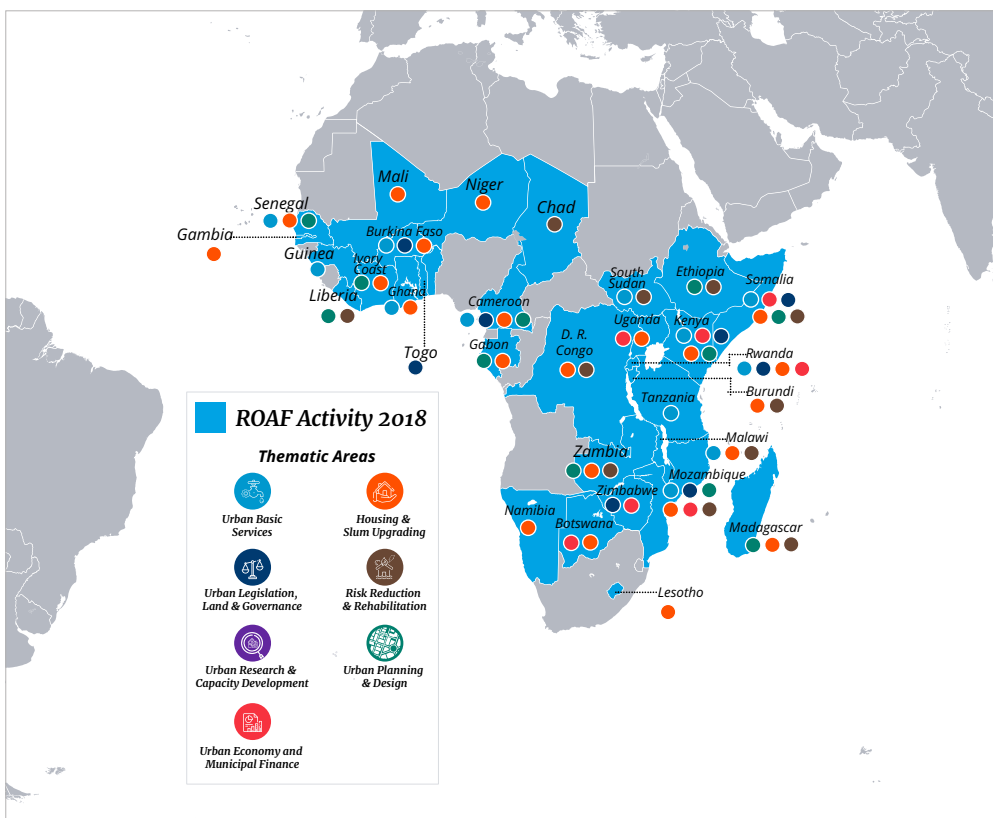© UN-Habitat / A.Padrós

Africa Region

Introduction

The Regional office for Africa covers Sub-Saharan Africa, which although the least urbanized of all the regions, at about 43 percent is, nevertheless, the most rapidly urbanizing region at 3.5 per cent annually. This has presented every country with challenges that come with rapid and unplanned urbanization. The New Urban Agenda has presented an opportunity that African countries have fully embraced and are implementing as reflected in UN-Habitat's expanding work and support, in 2018, responding to the requests from countries in the region.

In terms of thematic focus, UN-Habitat's interventions supporting sustainable urban development cover the largest number of countries. Priority areas of support at national and local levels provided in 2018 include housing and slum upgrading, urban basic services, land management, urban economy, municipal finance, urban and regional planning and policy development.

Strengthening capacities for reducing urban vulnerability and building resilience in sub Saharan Africa is another priority area given the climate change and its impact on urban and human settlements in the region. In 2018, UN-Habitat scaled up support in this area. In terms of portfolio size by thematic area, the largest operational projects are in Africa. UN-Habitat continued support on-going post-conflict reconstruction, rehabilitation and long -term development initiatives in Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Somalia.

The map below shows the countries where UN-Habitat is active and the thematic areas that it is supporting.

Key Regional Achievements in 2018:

The State of African Cities Report 2018, links urbanization to sustainable national development by providing credible options for poverty and unemployment alleviation. This will support member states in making evidence-based policy decisions regarding sustainable urban development.

National Urban Policies: Six countries Angola, Burkina Faso, Chad, Cabo Verde, Rwanda and Zambia continued to receive technical support for the development and implementation of their national urban policies.

Monitoring the implementation of the New Urban Agenda: Through the Africa Urban Agenda Programme, capacity for 60 professionals from 12 Southern African countries was strengthened on monitoring and reporting on implementation of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals 11.

In partnership with African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa, UN-Habitat has supported the development of "Harmonized Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Africa".

Improving tenure security: UN-Habitat is working on improving security of tenure for citizens and collaborating with

the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) in Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo and Namibia. Until 2018, about 5,600 formal documents of land occupancy have been issued while more than 217,000 people had there spatial data collected, mapped and enumerated to increase prospects for improved tenure security.

Urban Resilience: UN-Habitat is strengthening capacity in the use of the City Resilience Action Planning Tool (CityRAP), developed by the Technical Centre for Disaster Risk Management, Sustainability

and Urban Resilience (DiMSUR) supporting 12 countries (Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) in Southern Africa. Participatory instruments and methodologies are used to facilitate understanding and planning for urban resilience, as well as to undertake practical actions to strengthen the resilience of cities, towns, peri-urban and rural areas.

Arab States Region

Introduction

The Regional Office of the Arab States covers the Middle East and North Africa which is currently 56 per cent urbanized. Urban growth is largely due to rural-urban migration, and population displacement due to conflict in the region. UN-Habitat's work in the region, in 2018, focused on the major challenges affecting region which are mainly linked to conflict.
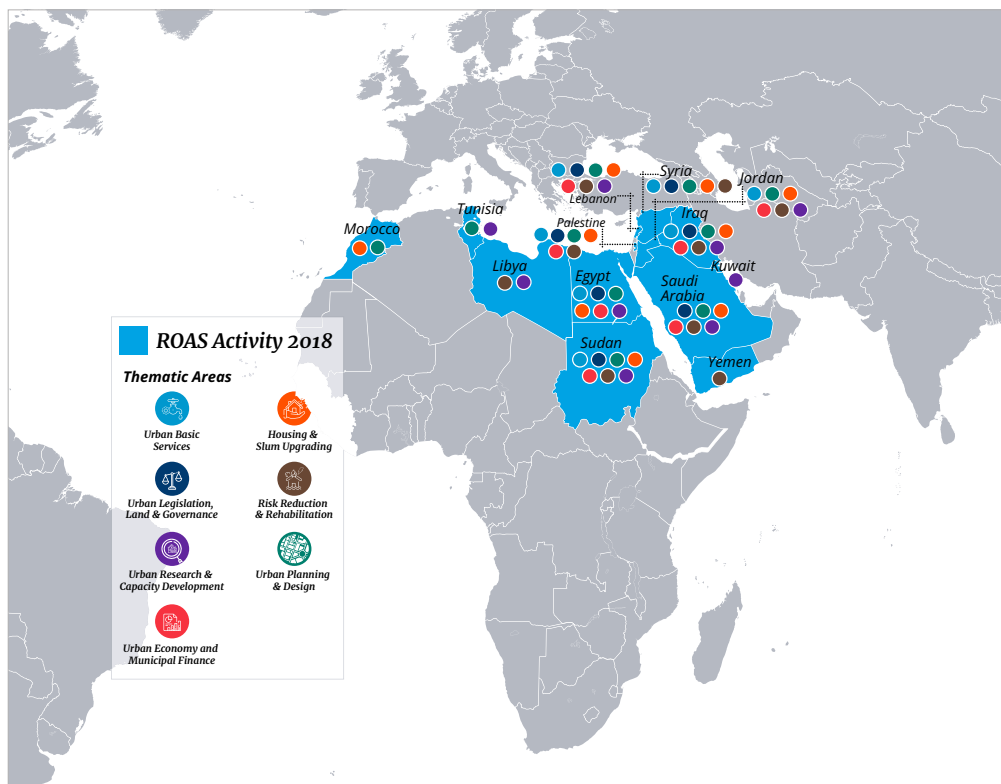
Entire cities in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen have been destroyed. Huge waves of displacement resulted in enormous pressures on host communities as cities struggle to absorb the large number of displaced people, straining service provision.

Land disputes and competing land claims due to secondary occupation during displacement of the original owner or unlawful seizure and sales by armed groups is another major challenge affecting the region.

UN-Habitat's thematic portfolio in the Arab States region is diverse and covers all UN-Habitat's thematic areas. While the portfolio addresses issues of planning and legislation and capacity development in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Egypt, for example, it prioritizes recovery interventions in countries such as Sudan, Iraq and Syria. The map below shows countries where UN-Habitat is working and the thematic area.

At the regional level, the publication *"Migration and Inclusive cities: A Guide for Arab City Leaders"* was officially launched and a toolkit is now available for Arab local authorities, linking the Arab cities with the principles of the Global Compact for Migration in practical manner to showcase the positive impact of mainstreaming these principles along with the pillars of inclusive cities in improving migration governance, at the local level.

The regional strategy, i.e. Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030 has localized global agendas to the realities of the Arab region and identified specific priority issues that need urgent action.

ROAS Activity 2018

Thematic Areas

Urban Basic Services

Housing & Slum Upgrading

Urban Legislation, Land & Governance

Risk Reduction & Rehabilitation

Urban Research & Capacity Development

Urban Planning & Design

Urban Economy and Municipal Finance

Key Regional Achievements in 2018

National Urban Policy: Through the Sustainable, Inclusive and Evidence-based National Urban Policies in Selected Arab countries UN-Habitat continued to provide technical support to four countries (Sudan, Tunisia, Lebanon and Jordan) that are at different stages of developing and implementing their national urban policies. Sudan has established a national urban observatory.

City and Neighbourhood Profiling is considered one of the main tools that UN-Habitat widely utilizes in the region to address access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services in the conflict areas. City and neighbourhood profiling work was undertaken in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen (6 cities), and used to produce damage assessments and recommend priority actions. In Libya UN-Habitat provided the six Municipalities and the Libyan Ministry of Planning with geo-databases and thematic maps that support central and local authorities in monitoring damage and functionality of urban facilities and thus supporting local decision-making at the city and neighborhood levels.

In Lebanon, the city profiles focus on assessing humanitarian vulnerabilities of host communities and Syrian refugees to identify the urban capacity as well as the gaps in responding to strains of refugee crisis and suggest responses that may influence mainstream municipal & national planning. In Iraq, these profiles have been the guiding framework for recovery issues in cities totally or partially destroyed by conflict.

Capacity of national stakeholders to address consequences of conflict strengthened. In Iraq and Syria, UN-Habitat works on enhancing capacities of the national and local governments on mapping and prioritizing recovery interventions. In Lebanon, capacity building targets local authorities in host communities to Syrian refugees to ensure inclusive decision-making and in order to mainstream the principles of 'sustaining peace' and 'building back better'. Municipal staff and officials from 22 of the most crisis-impacted cities in Syria were trained on relevant legislation and regulations, and the local prioritization and coordination of humanitarian and recovery interventions.

Quick recovery interventions benefiting the most vulnerable populations. In Iraq, 1,165 units of war-damaged houses and the accompanying basic secondary infrastructure were rehabilitated in Mosul, Sinjar, Bartella, Bashika and Teleskuf in Ninewa Governorate, and Ramadi and Fallujah in Anbar Governorate. In Gaza Strip Palestine, around 520 residents benefited from Housing, Land and Property Rights awareness raising workshops where women represent 66 per cent. In Jordan, WASH interventions in Zaatari and Azraq camps have given 120,000 Syrian refugees access to safe drinking water and sanitation services.

Improving security of tenure: About 3,056 households of IDPs in Blue Nile state in Sudan have been given access to secure and planned land. Addressing land rights is key to sustainable peace. Additionally, in Darfur, Sudan, plans were produced for 52 return villages where 82,500 benefited. This is in addition to building the capacity of Darfur Land Commission to formulate a land rights dispute mechanism. In Iraq, during 2018, 1,064 Certificates of occupancy were issued while about 6000 people benefitted from improved security of tenure.
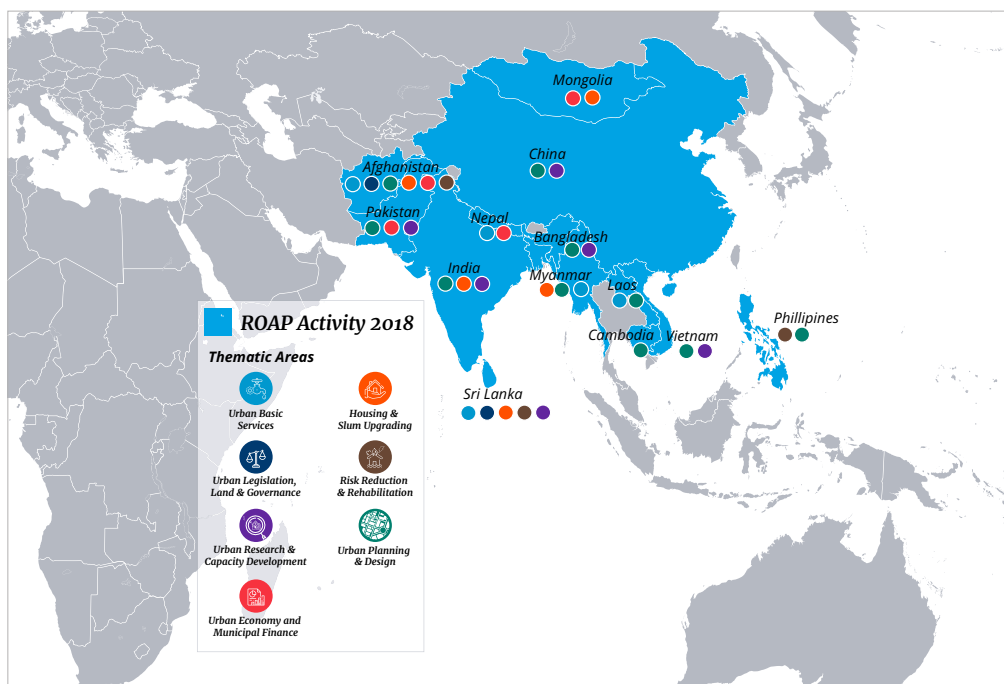
Asia and the Pacific Region

Introduction

Urbanization continues to be a defining megatrend in the Asia-Pacific region, offering opportunities but also posing significant challenges for cities and communities. About 54 per cent of the global urban population, more than 2.2 billion people, live in Asia. Environmental trends are alarming in many cities in the region. Air pollution is a major cause of health problems and death in several cities. Natural disasters are also becoming more frequent and intense in the region. Given the number of urban disasters in the region, cities are increasingly recognized as being highly vulnerable to climate change; the urban poor most at risk.

In 2018, UN-Habitat continued to support member states in addressing the challenges of urbanization through policy advice, capacity building, development projects, crisis response as well as regional normative and advocacy engagements. The map below shows UN-Habitat's thematic coverage in the region.

Key Regional Achievements in 2018

Urban planning and design has increasingly become a focus area for UN-Habitat's work in Asia and the Pacific. For example, in Wuhan City, China, the People-Centered Urban Public Space Programme has in the last three years implemented public spaces in three districts.

National Urban Policies: UN-Habitat is currently supporting eight countries, (Afghanistan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Solomon Islands) in their development or review process, as well as guiding them on how to integrate climate change and urban issues into national policy frameworks.

ROAP Activity 2018

Thematic Areas

Urban Basic Services

Housing & Slum Upgrading

Urban Legislation, Land & Governance

Risk Reduction & Rehabilitation

Urban Research & Capacity Development

Urban Planning & Design

Urban Economy and Municipal Finance

As an effective tool to implement national urban policies, integrated, polycentric and balanced territorial development, the demand for national and territorial planning has been growing in the region.

UN–Habitat and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan established the Spatial Planning Platform that is building capacity of national territorial, regional and urban planning.

Improving resilience of cities and adapting to climate change. UN–Habitat is supporting five countries (Lao PDR, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Philippines and Vietnam) in the implementation of climate change action plans with concrete adaptation projects. Through UN–Habitat's Regional Cities and Change to: Climate Change programme, capacities of governments and urban stakeholders in 17 countries for the development of vulnerability assessments and resilience planning and integrating climate change into strategic and land use plans were strengthened.

Through use of the People's Process, more than 18,000 households in northern Sri Lanka benefitted from improved tenure security and 36,000 households in Myanmar benefitted from improved WASH services. In total, since 2008, the approach has empowered communities to build over one million homes and provided basic services to more than three million people.

UN–Habitat uses this approach to support communities and local governments in strengthening the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus.

Improving tenure security and municipal finance. Through the National Participatory Land Administration and Management Programme, in Afghanistan UN–Habitat is providing technical support that will benefit over a million households (about 25 per cent of the Afghan population) with tenure rights. To date, more than 500,000 properties have been surveyed in twelve cities, 147,000 of them in 2018. The additional revenue from Safayi (local tax) collection to date is more than USD5.4 million, resulting from the more than 230,000 invoices issued.

Advocacy: UN–Habitat chaired a Regional Task Team on Sustainable Urbanization, bringing together urban focal points from over 20 UN agencies at the regional level, which provided inputs on the review of SDG 11 and launched a pilot initiative to develop strategic value proposition on sustainable urban development for the UN System in Cambodia and Nepal.

The Twelfth Asia-Pacific City Summit was held in Fukuoka from 1-3 August 2018, co-organized by UN–Habitat and the City of Fukuoka. The summit convened representatives from 32 cities in 16 countries across the region, as well as several international organizations and adopted the "Fukuoka Declaration", which stresses the need for increased exchange and cooperation between cities, as well as with the international development system, towards implementing and achieving the SDGs.

Latin America and the Caribbean Region

Introduction

This region is 81 per cent urbanized. The main issues in the region are structural, social and economic and need to be resolved to make the cities more inclusive and more competitive. Sectoral policies dominate the real-public-management-realm. Integrated policies are the exception and usually perceived as theoretical and non-pragmatic. Most cities have been poorly planned during the period of rapid urban transition. This causes high urban sprawl, informal neighborhoods and urban inequalities. National urban policies and capacity development are important strategies for addressing this problem. Implementation and adoption of Urban Prosperity Strategies and an Ecosystem of Funds for USD has been proposed to improve the productivity in cities in this region.

UN-Habitat's portfolio in the region mainly covers thematic areas such as Capacity Development, Urban Planning and Design, the New Urban Agenda and the City Prosperity Initiative. The map below shows the thematic spread in the countries UN-Habitat is working in.

Key Regional Achievements in 2018

City Prosperity Initiative (CPI): UN-Habitat partnered with Infonavit, a private enterprise, and calculated the basic City Prosperity Index in 305 cities of Mexico, covering almost 90 per cent of the urban population of the country. The CPI methodology has also been applied in other cities in Colombia, Bolivia, El Salvador, Costa Rica as well as Dominican Republic. The CPI is providing urban planning officers and decision-makers in these countries with a set of quality data to promote a better and more coherent discussion in public policy making.

State of Cities Reports: Four Metropolitan Area Reports were produced in the region using the CPI methodology: *(i)The State of San Salvador Metropolitan Area Report 2018*; *(ii) The State of San Jose Metropolitan Area Report 2018*; *(iii) The State of Santo Domingo Metropolitan Area Report and (iv) The State of the Bogota Urban Localities prosperity Report.*

National Urban Policies: UN-Habitat continued to support countries in this region to develop their National Urban Policies. Argentina developed its National Urban Policy and was launched. Four sub-national authorities in Mexico are developing their urban policies and long-term strategies. i) Sinaloa has a Territorial Strategy to 2030; ii) Reynosa has a Document of Vision for the municipality; iii) Zapopan counts with a portfolio of 10 strategic urban projects in the municipality and iv) Querétaro has a long-term planning strategy towards 2031 aligned to 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs, NUA and national policy. The process of developing the national urban policy is also ongoing in El Salvador, Guatemala, Dominican Republic and Bolivia.

Advocacy: UN-Habitat has become a key advisor to the Assembly of Ministers of Housing and Urban development in the region, supporting it to adopt a Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda. UN-Habitat is also promoting a regional urban platform for monitoring implementation of the New Urban Agenda in the region.
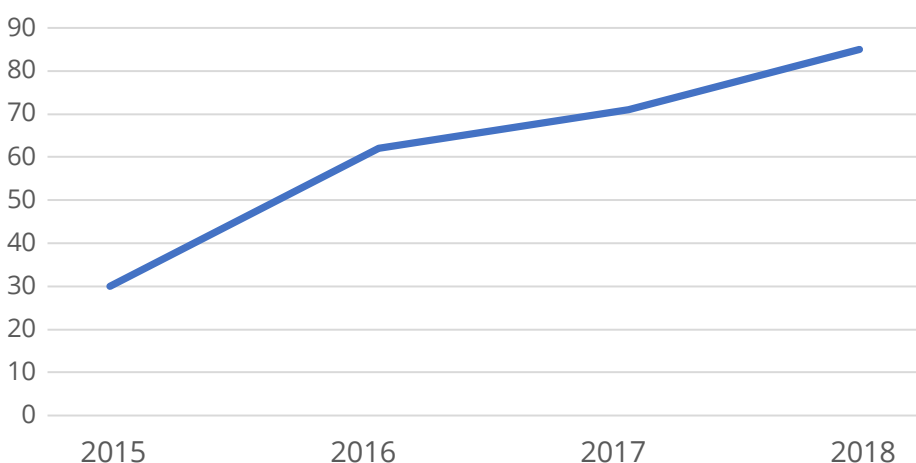
SECTION
04

Mainstreaming Cross-Cutting Issues: Climate Change, Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth

There is evidence of rising inequality and environmental degradation in cities across the world. Addressing these challenges is at the core of the UN-Habitat mandate. The 2030 Agenda envisions 'that no one will be left behind' and to reach the furthest behind first. The New Urban Agenda reinforces the vision of sustainable cities for all. Four cross-cutting issues: Climate Change; Gender Equality; Human Rights and Youth; articulated in the Strategic Plan 2014-2019 are mainstreamed to support country, regional and thematic offices, in order to ensure that all UN-Habitat work is targeting those furthest behind and promoting socially and environmentally sustainable cities. Mainstreaming requires that all work contributes to the larger long-term goals of UN-Habitat, the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs.

Work on cross-cutting issues follows a two-track approach consisting of mainstreaming and issue-specific projects. This ensures that cross-cutting issues are integrated in the work of all focus areas, both conceptually and in all operational projects.

The Cross-Cutting Marker System is one of the key accountability tools UN-Habitat uses to ensure inclusive and sustainable cities. Each cross-cutting issue has a Marker that is applied to every project proposal to ensure the minimum requirements are met before approval. Since the introduction of the Markers in 2015, there has been a steady improvement in the percentage of UN-Habitat projects that meet the requirements of all four Markers. Furthermore, the number of projects that are scoring highly on individual Markers has also risen, with 51 per cent of projects achieving a 2 or above on at least one Marker.

Figure 1: Percentage of UN-Habitat Projects that meet all cross-cutting requirements

Climate Change mainstreaming ensures that UN-Habitat's projects adequately address climate change mitigation and adaptation at each step of the project cycle. Mainstreaming inclusion issues prioritizes the targeting of the most vulnerable in the project context and the use of an inclusive participatory process. Inclusion support typically focuses on gender-responsive planning, equal opportunity for women and youth to access employment and the sensitization of stakeholders to working with and for young people.

The results of mainstreaming work is evident throughout the work of UN-Habitat. Mainstreaming ensures that all work is environmentally sustainable and targeted at those furthest behind. UN-Habitat has successfully empowered local communities through participation in urban governance and planning, in countries such as **Afghanistan, Kenya, Somalia, Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, Sri Lanka, Cambodia** and **Iraq** to promote people-centred sustainable cities.

Recent Evaluations highlight the impact of mainstreaming work. At the project level, the Evaluation of the Innovate Counties project in Kenya highlighted that "gender equality is also part of the struggle to sustainable development. To unlock full potential of the ICTs, for sustainable development, women need to be part of development and use of the ICTs solutions. This project also targets young girls with the aim of encouraging them to build ICT solutions within their communities." One of the female-start-up leaders from Mombasa revealed the relevance of this project to women and girls by stating that 'women and girls have been given an upper hand in implementing some of their innovations and ideas in the government. This makes them more productive.'

In **Sri Lanka,** Government partners said that "UN-Habitat continues to change the lives of people, especially people who really need the assistance." Meanwhile, community members said 'this is a process that works and gets community buy-in, and when you do this it creates successful

projects and it lessens your problems every day.' The Evaluator noted that Community Development Councils have provided women in the plantation sector with the safe and proper care of their children. Moreover, these mothers can now engage in productive livelihood activities with "confidence and peace of mind."

Regionally, in the Pacific, the Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance (GWOPA) has initiated the process for implementing a pilot Water Operators' Partnership on climate change adaptation, highlighting the importance of climate change mainstreaming across partnerships.

The Evaluation of the Global Land Tool Network, one of UN-Habitat's flagship

programmes, noted that "Land tools are the GLTN´s "signature" product and its most valued contribution on a global scale. These include the Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC) and Youth and Land Responsiveness Criteria (YLRC)." The evaluation noted that at the operational level, 'an estimated 2,259 people improved their knowledge of pro-poor and gender-responsive land tools and approaches, through the implementation of 101 capacity development initiatives. In total, 40 per cent of the GLTN´s capacity development participants were women.'

The Global Public Space Programme, is especially recognized for innovation and high expertise in integration across thematic issues, in participatory design, in quality

normative and operational knowledge, and proficiency in working with beneficiaries and target groups, especially women and youth.

Similarly, the Evaluation of the City Resilience Profiling Programme highlighted that 'two Urban Resilience Enhancers were developed and published: the Gender Equality Enhancer and the Climate Action Enhancer, both providing additional stand-alone tool and highlighting specific cross-cutting issues in the City Resilience Profiling Tool'.

These Evaluations of country programmes, global programmes and individual projects demonstrate the transformative impact that mainstreaming has at all levels, across the work of the agency.

Children and youth assembly at the ninth World Urban Forum © Julius Mwelu/UN-Habitat
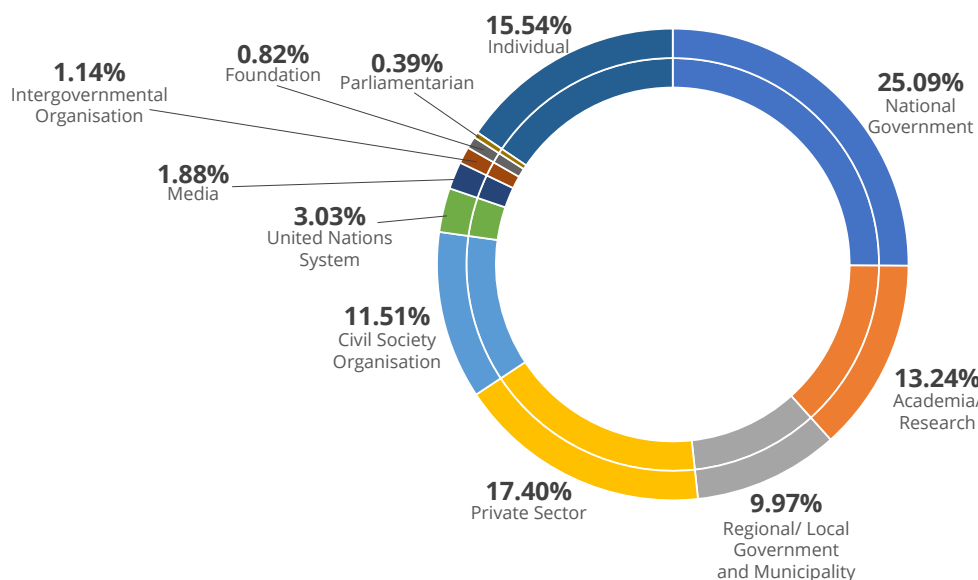
Advocacy and Partnerships

UN-Habitat recognizes the critical role that advocacy plays in raising awareness and influencing broader action on sustainable urbanization at all levels and with all stakeholders. In 2018, UN-Habitat coordinated and supported mobilization for major global advocacy and awareness raising platforms and initiatives. These included World Urban Forum, World Urban Campaign and, the month-long Urban October which includes World Habitat Day and the World Cities Day.

World Urban Forum

The Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) that took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 7 to 13 February 2018 under the theme "Cities 2030 – Cities for All: Implementing the New Urban Agenda" was deemed a major success. The World Urban Forum has sustained its position as a premier global advocacy and learning platform on sustainable urbanization. The ninth WUF session attracted record participation with over 23,000 diverse participants from 164 countries (See figure 2) . The participants shared knowledge and experiences on sustainable urbanization and human settlements. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on cities 2030, as a collective outcome from the participants, demonstrates the increasing awareness by member states and other stakeholders of the urgency to take action by localizing and scaling up the implementation of the New Urban Agenda as an accelerator for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Urban October

The year 2018 was the most successful Urban October on record with over 320 events highlighting various aspects of urbanization taking place in 82 cities in 51 countries during the month. Urban October celebrations in 2018 began on World Habitat Day on 1st October with the theme of Municipal Solid Waste Management, with the global observance co-hosted by the Government of Kenya in Nairobi. UN-Habitat launched the "Waste Wise Cities Campaign" on World Habitat Day to assist Member States in making their cities clean and healthy. The President of Kenya officiated at the global observation in Nairobi that was attended by over 750 participants. Since then UN-Habitat led by the Executive Director has joined forces with the Government of Kenya and the County Government of Nairobi to conduct clean-up of different deprived areas in Nairobi.

Urban October closed with the World Cities Day global observance celebrations in Liverpool, United Kingdom on 31 October with the theme Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities. Local, regional and national authorities and partners were encouraged to organize activities during Urban October and register them on the UN-Habitat website.

Figure 2: Stakeholder participation in the Ninth WUF Session by partner category

FORUM BANDAR SEDUNIA

WUF9

KUALA LUMPUR • 7-13 FEB 2018

The World Urban Forum has sustained its position as a premier global advocacy and learning platform on sustainable urbanization. **The ninth WUF session attracted record participation with over 23,000 diverse participants from 164 countries**

During the World Cities Day, which took place in 66 cities around the world, UN–Habitat Scroll of Honour was relaunched and awarded to five recipients, including civil society, academia, local government and national government from the regions of Asia-Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, Africa and Arab States.

Active campaigns aimed at promoting Urban October resulted in an increase of UN–Habitat media mentions and appearance. UN–Habitat appeared in 48.8 million articles with 168 editorial mentions. India dominated the media global coverage of Urban October flagship days at 41 per cent followed by United States (13 per cent) and the United Kingdom (8.7 per cent). World Cities Day events took place in 66 cities around the world including significant events in China.

System-wide strategy on the New Urban Agenda and the Action Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

After a request for a United Nations system-wide strategy and action framework for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, UN–Habitat spearheaded a process of consultation with Member States and regional structures, leading to the adoption of key elements of an action framework for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in regional contexts.

During consultations at the Ninth session of the World Urban Forum, 15 United Nations agencies endorsed a UN Collaborative Implementation Framework. The Senior Management Group of the Secretary-General subsequently requested UN–Habitat to facilitate cooperation among agencies to advance system-wide coherence on sustainable urban development. UN–Habitat led a task team of representatives from some 12 United Nations agencies, which presented a draft framework to the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN–Habitat and indicated that work would centre on knowledge, operations, finance and sharing.

In October 2018, an annotated outline of the process was endorsed by the High-Level Committee on Programmes, which paved the way to final consideration by the High-Level Committee on Programmes in

April 2019. Once endorsed, the strategy will be presented to the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, for review and approval in May 2019.

Mobilizing Financing for the Sustainable Urbanization

In order to improve financing for sustainable urbanization, UN–Habitat continued to work with partners such as the World Bank on a multi-partner implementation facility for sustainable urban development. Initiatives in pilot countries **(Egypt, Kenya, Mexico, and Uganda)** will contribute to a proof of concept before embarking on resource mobilization. Efforts to identify further projects through feasibility studies continued, to enable UN–Habitat and others help cities to identify bankable projects and to match them with potential investors. In Merida, **Mexico,** an analysis using City Prosperity Initiative-generated data allowed for feasibility studies to be conducted to identify potential projects.

In Kenya, the World Bank and UN–Habitat have engaged intensively with the Government on an action plan to address elements of integrated urban planning, affordable housing, slum upgrading, municipal revenue generation and capacity-building for county governments. Joint scoping missions to **Rwanda** and **Uganda** took place in 2018. As part of the reform of the United Nations development system, UN–Habitat participated in the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund and advocated for the creation of an urban window in the Fund.

New synergies and financing for sustainable urbanization have also been created through UN–Habitat engagement in the Adaptation Fund, with three projects totalling USD 13 million approved in 2018. Concepts and proposals under development in 2019 totalled approximately USD 50 million. The Adaptation Fund board approved two new proposals from UN–Habitat for work in **Fiji** and **the Solomon Islands.** Another project was initiated in the **Lao People's Democratic Republic.** In Africa, a regional resilience programme for the **Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi** and **Mozambique** was submitted for final approval. In the Arab States, a regional programme for **Jordan** and **Lebanon** as well as a project for the Khartoum metropolitan area were being developed.
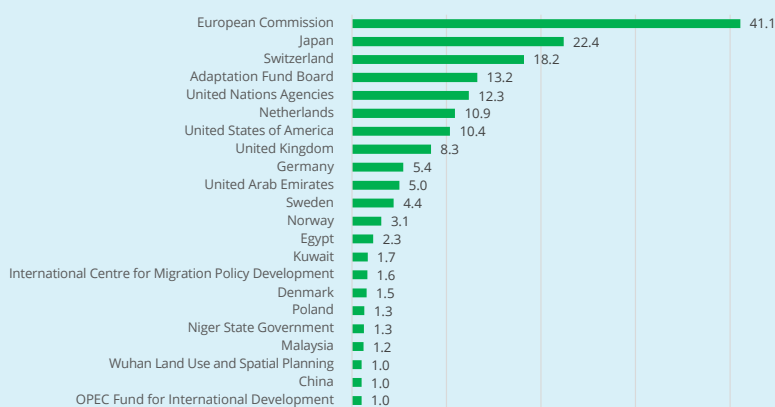
In Latin America and the Caribbean, a regional project was being developed in **Argentina, Brazil** and **Paraguay.** Meanwhile, a UN–Habitat proposal for the provision of expert services to the Green Climate Fund was found technically acceptable in three areas: adaptation planning, transport and urban development. UN–Habitat's accreditation as a multilateral Green Climate Fund project entity advanced, with the adaptation of several internal policies to meet the accreditation criteria, including the addition of environmental and social safeguards.

Financial Performance

Income

USD 182.6 million – total value of new income acquired in 2018

Figure 1: Top donors and development partners in 2018 in USD millions

Donor	USD millions
European Commission	41.1
Japan	22.4
Switzerland	18.2
Adaptation Fund Board	13.2
United Nations Agencies	12.3
Netherlands	10.9
United States of America	10.4
United Kingdom	8.3
Germany	5.4
United Arab Emirates	5.0
Sweden	4.4
Norway	3.1
Egypt	2.3
Kuwait	1.7
International Centre for Migration Policy Development	1.6
Denmark	1.5
Poland	1.3
Niger State Government	1.3
Malaysia	1.2
Wuhan Land Use and Spatial Planning	1.0
China	1.0
OPEC Fund for International Development	1.0

Implementation

USD 190.9 million – total implementation representing 76.4 per cent of annual budget of USD 249.9 million
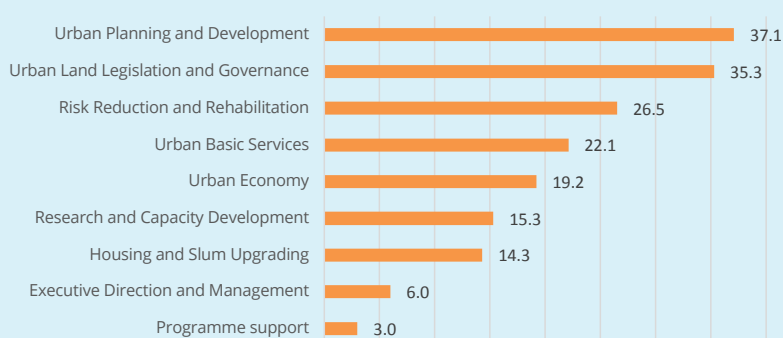
USD 116.7 million – expenditure technical cooperation activities at regional and country level

USD 41.8 million – expenditure on earmarked normative programmes

USD 20.4 million – expenditure on core normative work

USD 12.0 million – for programme support activities

Figure 2: Expenditure by work programme area in USD millions

Work programme area	USD millions
Urban Planning and Development	37.1
Urban Land Legislation and Governance	35.3
Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation	26.5
Urban Basic Services	22.1
Urban Economy	19.2
Research and Capacity Development	15.3
Housing and Slum Upgrading	14.3
Executive Direction and Management	6.0
Programme support	3.0

The work programme of UN–Habitat is financed mainly from three broad funding sources which comprise (i) Regular budget allocations from the United Nations assessed contributions approved by the General Assembly; (ii) Contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the form of non-earmarked voluntary contributions approved by the Governing Council and earmarked contributions to the Foundation for specific normative programmes; and (iii) Technical cooperation contributions which are earmarked for regional and country programmes.

Until 2019, UN–Habitat follows a biennial planning and budgeting cycle. For the most part, the financial performance is shown for the biennium 2018-2019. Figure 3 shows the income trends for the four segments for the five years from 2014 to 2018.
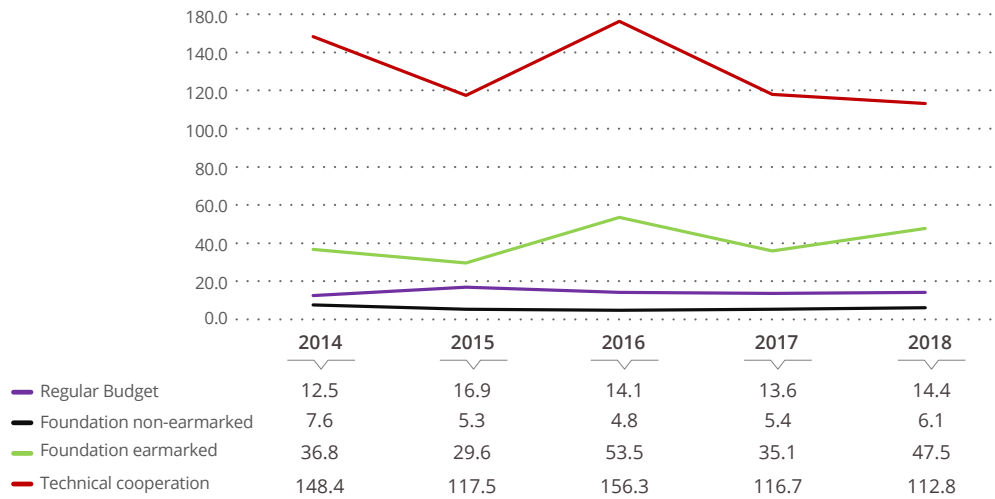
Regular budget allocations for the recurring work of UN–Habitat generally remained constant over the five-year period except for additional allocations in 2015 and 2016 to enable UN–Habitat to organize the Habitat III Conference, and in 2018 for preparation of the Quadrennial Report on the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

As a result of the Executive Director's strategic dialogues with Member States and progress made on UN–Habitat's governance and institutional reforms, there was an increase of 38 per cent in voluntary contributions to the Foundation non-earmarked account; however, the USD 6.1 million revenue comprising USD 3.6 million in voluntary non-earmarked contributions and USD 2.5 million in cost recovery and other income left a shortfall of USD 6.9 million against the annual budget of USD 13 million.

There was a 35 per cent increase in revenue to USD 47.5 million from the previous year to Foundation Special Purpose activities reflecting UN–Habitat's efforts to enhance the level of normative work given its role as a lead organization in the United Nations on sustainable urbanization.

The revenue for technical cooperation activities declined slightly by 3 per cent from the previous year to USD 112.8 million. There has been a challenge in securing resources for activities for countries that are transitioning from low to middle income status.

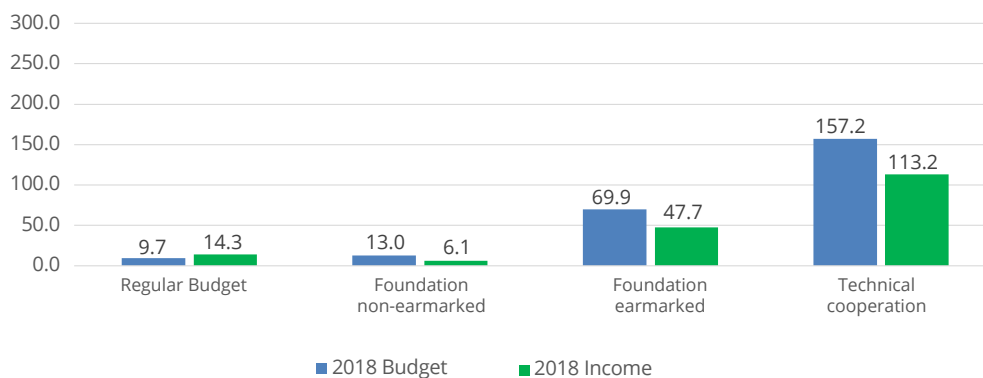*Figure 3: Revenue trends from 2014 to 2018 (in USD millions)*

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Regular Budget	12.5	16.9	14.1	13.6	14.4
Foundation non-earmarked	7.6	5.3	4.8	5.4	6.1
Foundation earmarked	36.8	29.6	53.5	35.1	47.5
Technical cooperation	148.4	117.5	156.3	116.7	112.8

> There was an annual increase of 35% to US$ 47.5 million for earmarked normative programmes due to efforts to enhance the level normative work and reflecting UN-Habitat's lead role in this area.

Funding against 2018-2019 plan

Interim financial results for 2018, which is the first year of the biennium, indicate total income acquired of USD 181.3 million representing 73 per cent of the 2018 annual work programme budget of USD 249.9 million which is half of the approved biennial budget of USD 499.8 million.

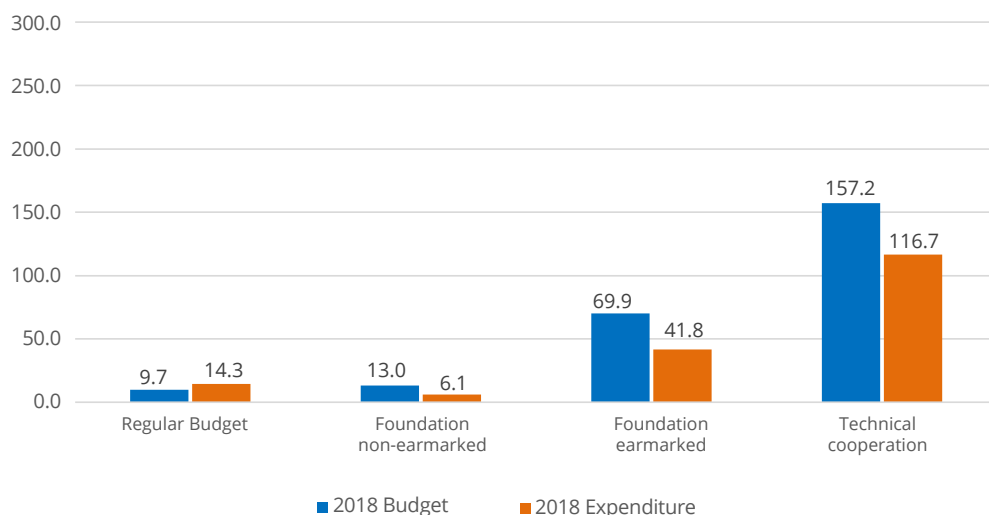*Figure 4: Income secured in 2018 by fund segment (In USD millions)*

The regular budget income of USD 14.7 million exceeded the initial allocation by 47 per cent due to a higher allocation to cover regular budget positions which had a high post occupancy and production of the Quadrennial report on implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Income for the Foundation non earmarked account was USD 6.1 million or 47 per cent of the annual budget of USD13.1 million reflecting the ongoing difficulty of securing funds for core normative work, even with a 38 per cent increase in contributions 2018. Funding for specific normative programmes under the foundation earmarked account amounted to USD 47.7 million representing 68 per cent of the annual budget of USD 70 million, while funding for technical cooperation activities at regional and country level amounted to USD113.2 million or 72 per cent of the annual budget of USD 157.8 million.

Implementation against 2018 plan

UN–Habitat's annual budget for 2018 was USD 249.9 representing half of the biennial work programme budget. Implementation in 2018 was USD 190.9 million or 76.4 per cent of the annual budget. Regular budget expenditure 47.4 per cent was higher than initial plans due to higher post occupancy and preparation of the Quadrennial report on implementation of the New Urban Agenda. For the under-funded foundation general purpose account, austerity measures, expenditure controls and prioritization of activities under the foundation non-earmarked fund helped limit expenditure to USD 6.1 million or 46.9 per cent of the annual budget. Implementation of specific normative programmes funded by foundation special purpose resources amounted to USD 41.8 million representing 60 per cent of the annual budget of USD 69.9 million, while that of regional and country level technical cooperation activities amounted to USD 116.7 million representing 74 per cent of the annual budget of USD 157.7million .

To ensure sustainability of its programmes and enhance the capacity of partners many whom are at the local level, UN–Habitat works with implementing partners. In 2018, a total of 99 implementing partners were engaged through agreements of cooperation amounting to USD 21.0 million. This engagement represents 11.7 per cent of total expenditure.

Figure 5: Implementation against annual budget in 2018–2019 by fund in USD millions
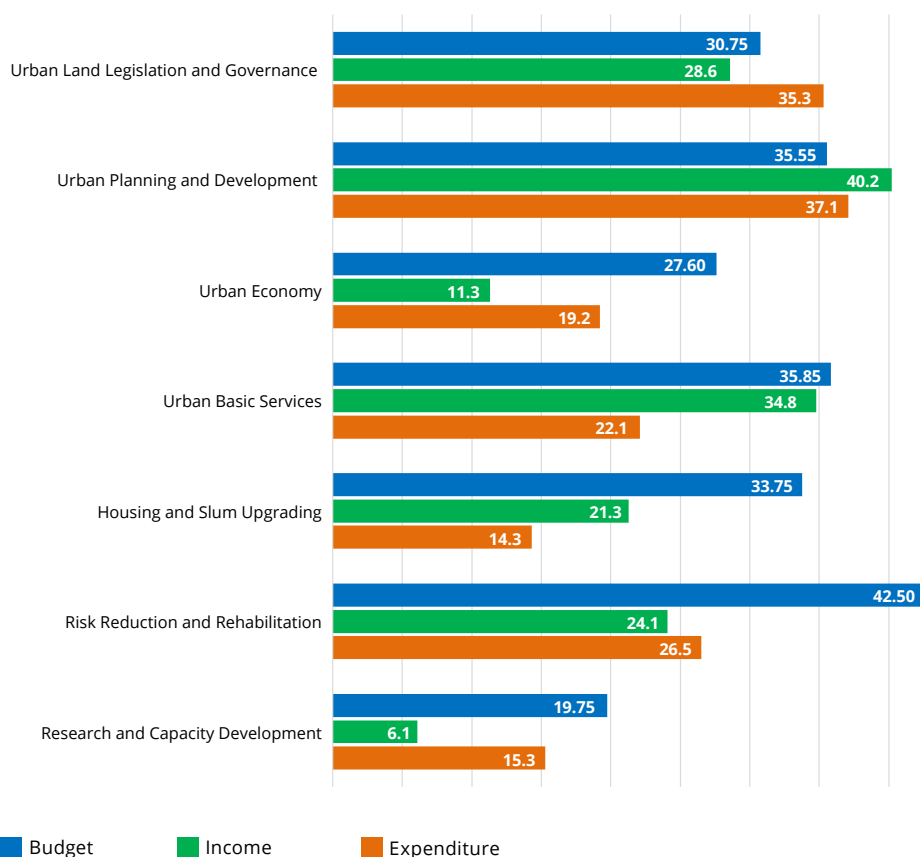

Legend: ■ 2018 Budget ■ 2018 Expenditure

Financial Performance by subprogramme in 2018–2019

Figure 6: Budget, income secured and implementation for earmarked programmes by subprogramme in USD millions

Legend: ■ Budget ■ Income ■ Expenditure

12% of total expenditure

UN-Habitat works with implementing partners enhance their capacity and ensure sustainability of programmes.
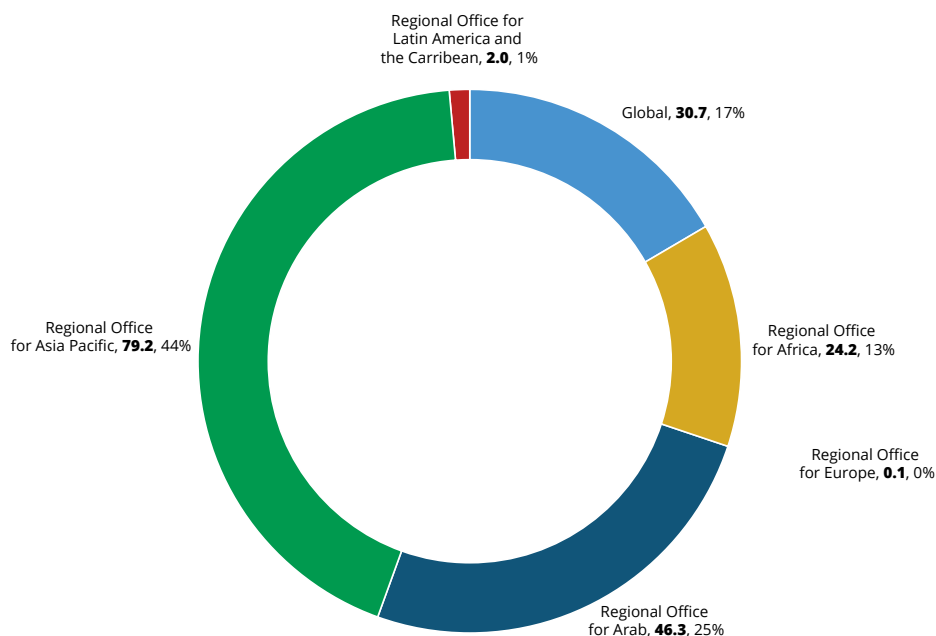
In terms of income secured, subprogrammes that performed well include urban planning and design which exceeded its annual budget as well as urban land, legislation and governance, and urban basic services. Subprogrammes that fell short of their annual income targets include research and capacity development, housing and slum upgrading and urban economy. With regard to implementation, the highest levels of implementation against annual plans include urban land, legislation and governance, and urban planning and design which exceeded their annual budgets.
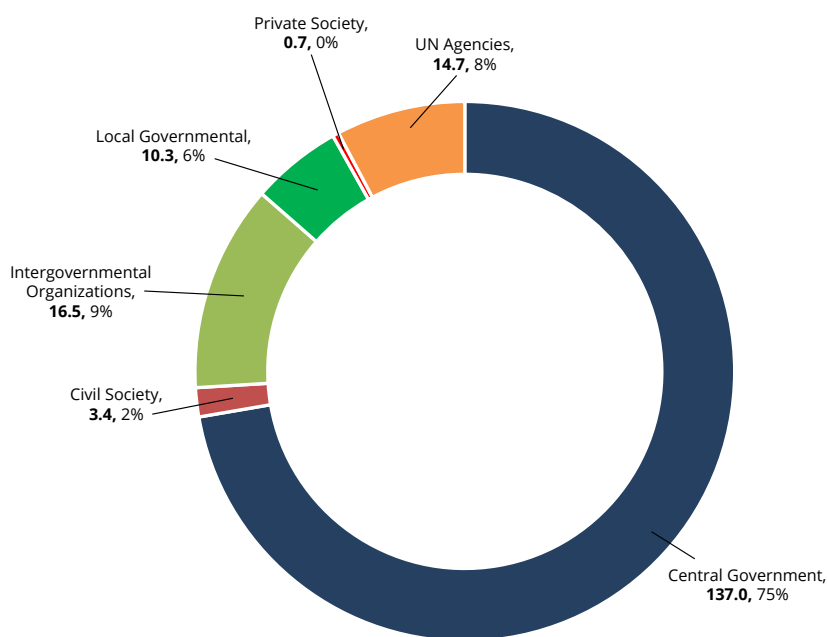
Income by Region

Around 83 per cent of new income acquired in 2018 was for technical cooperation activities at regional or country level. The Asia Pacific region recorded the highest income of USD 79.2 million or 44 per cent of total funding. Top countries and territories that received new funding were Afghanistan, Philippines, Mongolia, Solomon Islands and Fiji in the Asia Pacific region; Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Palestinian Territory and Lebanon in Arab States; Ethiopia, Malawi, Somalia and Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa; Colombia, Haiti, Ecuador, Cuba and Mexico in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Kosovo in Eastern Europe.

Figure 7: Income distribution by region (million USD)

Regional Office for Latin America and the Carribean, **2.0**, 1%

Global, **30.7**, 17%

Regional Office for Asia Pacific, **79.2**, 44%

Regional Office for Africa, **24.2**, 13%

Regional Office for Europe, **0.1**, 0%

Regional Office for Arab, **46.3**, 25%

Funding sources

Figure 8: Funding sources in 2018 (million USD)

Private Society, **0.7**, 0%

UN Agencies, **14.7**, 8%

Local Governmental, **10.3**, 6%

Intergovernmental Organizations, **16.5**, 9%

Civil Society, **3.4**, 2%

Central Government, **137.0**, 75%

About 75 per cent of UN–Habitat's funding in 2018 came from central government followed by inter-governmental organizations, other United Nations agencies, local government, civil society and the private sector. The top five donors provided over 50 per cent of total funding highlighting the need to diversify UN–Habitat's funding sources through strategic partnerships with more governments, local authorities, the private sector and civil society organizations.

Evaluation

The Evaluation Unit is responsible for managing the evaluation function of UN-Habitat. The evaluations undertaken in 2018 ranged from global, regional and country levels to thematic and policy ones. There were also evaluations of programmes and projects. These evaluations enable UN-Habitat to assess its effectiveness, in terms of achieving results, demonstrating value for money and facilitating accountability to key stakeholders, including Member States, development partners and beneficiaries. Evaluations contribute to organizational learning and overall performance management.

In 2018, 15 evaluations were undertaken, a major improvement from 2017, when only seven evaluations were done. Table 1 below shows the full range of evaluations carried out in 2018. There was an improvement in the level of integration of cross cutting issues, comprising gender, youth, climate change and human rights in the evaluations.

In response to repeated requests by Member States to see more collaboration and cooperation with other UN agencies,
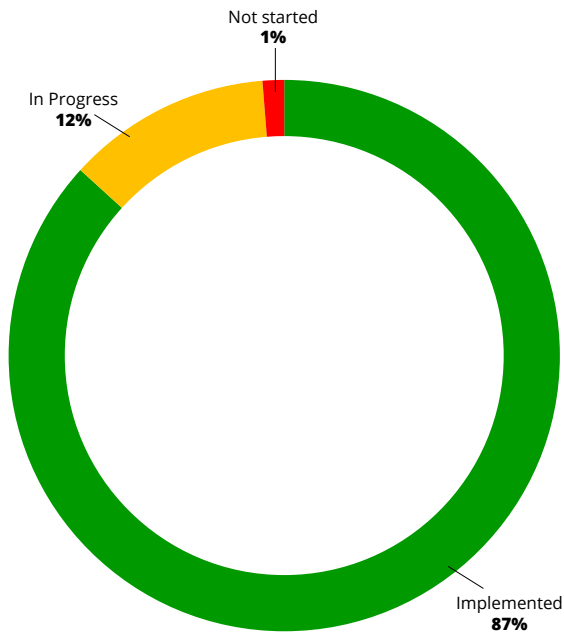
two joint evaluations were conducted in 2018. However, the number and coverage of evaluations conducted are still not fully representative of the broad mandate and areas of UN-Habitat's work. There is a need to prioritize evaluations so that UN-Habitat can demonstrate the results achieved in all the seven focus areas of UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2014-2019.

Table 1: Evaluations undertaken in 2018

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT	NAME OF EVALUATION
Urban Legislation, Land and Governance	1. Evaluation of Global Land Tool Network Phase 2.
	2. Evaluation of Future Saudi Cities Programme
Urban Planning and Design	1. Evaluation of UN-Habitat's City Planning and Design Strategy.
Urban Economy	1. Evaluation of cooperation agreement between Youth and livelihood Unit and HIVOS
Urban Basic Services	1. End of Project Evaluation: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Disaster Prone Communities Programme in Northern Ghana
	2. Evaluation of the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance GWOPA Strategy 2013-2017
Housing and Slum Upgrading	1. Evaluation of the project "Strengthening national capacities to formulate and adopt housing and slum upgrading strategies
Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation	1. Evaluation of the Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience Building in Lusophone Africa Project.
	2. Evaluation of UN-Habitat's Country Programme in Sri Lanka.
	3. Joint Mid-Term Evaluation of The Making Cities Sustainable and Resilient Project
Research and Capacity Development.	1. Evaluation of the Strategic Development Phase of the Global Future Cities Programme.
External Relations Division	1. Evaluation of World Cities Day
	2. Evaluation of the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum 9
Programme.	1. Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Programme for Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Phase 1

Enhanced Learning aspects from UN-Habitat Evaluation function

Figure 1: Showing status of evaluations recommendations

There is a realization that the focus of UN-Habitat evaluations should shift from being primarily about accountability to include learning and performance improvement. Lessons learned are identified in some but not all evaluation reports, including the ones for 2018.

The UN-Habitat website www.unhabitat.org/evaluation, serves as a platform for internal, as well as external users and contains evaluation reports, evaluation briefs and other evaluation tools. Several mechanisms for facilitating learning and knowledge development from evaluations were identified during 2018, including use of clear and easy language, and new media and technology like "YouTube"/Videos.

Follow-up to implementation of evaluation recommendations based on management responses

The establishment of an online Evaluation Recommendation Tracking System as mechanism to systematically follow-up the implementation of recommendations has been very useful. By December 2018, UN-Habitat was monitoring implementation of 321 recommendations, of which about 275 (87 per cent) of accepted evaluation recommendations were implemented within planned time, 38 (12 per cent) were in progress, and 4 (1.2 per cent) had not started.

Improved capacity in evaluation

In April 2018, the UN-Habitat Management Board approved the UN-Habitat Evaluation Manual that presents the core methodology and processes that the agency applies to conduct its evaluations. It is based on international good evaluation standards and practices, and UN-Habitat Evaluation Policy and United Nations Evaluation Group Norms and Standards to guide staff and consultants alike.

Areas needing improvement

· A key constraint of the evaluation of UN-Habitat concerns the evaluation budget which is relatively low and directly impacts the quality of its evaluation's outputs. Evaluation budgets are included in projects and programmes, and it is only SIDA that gives funding to support core activities of the evaluation function.

· The quality of decentralized evaluations needs to improve and comply with evaluation standards. Currently, they are also not centrally available, which reduces intra-organization learning.

· Although the evaluation recommendations tracking system is in place, there is no requirement for staff to provide regular updates on the implementation status of recommendations.

Audit

UN–Habitat is subject to the internal and external audit rules and regulations of the United Nations Secretariat. The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the United Nations Board of Auditors (BOA) respectively perform the internal audit and the external audit functions. Both oversight bodies apply international best practices such as the use of international auditing standards, use of professional auditors, operational independence, and public disclosure of audit reports. Tables 2 and 3 below inform on the number of audits carried out and shows a five-year trend analysis.

About 23 audit recommendations were issued in 2018 of which 4 were considered critical by the external auditors. Critical audit recommendations identify high risk areas. The total number of recommendations in 2018 is slightly below the annual average but a higher than average number of critical audit recommendations were received from the external auditors. This was due to external auditors covering more country operations in their 2017 audit visits (6 countries visited).
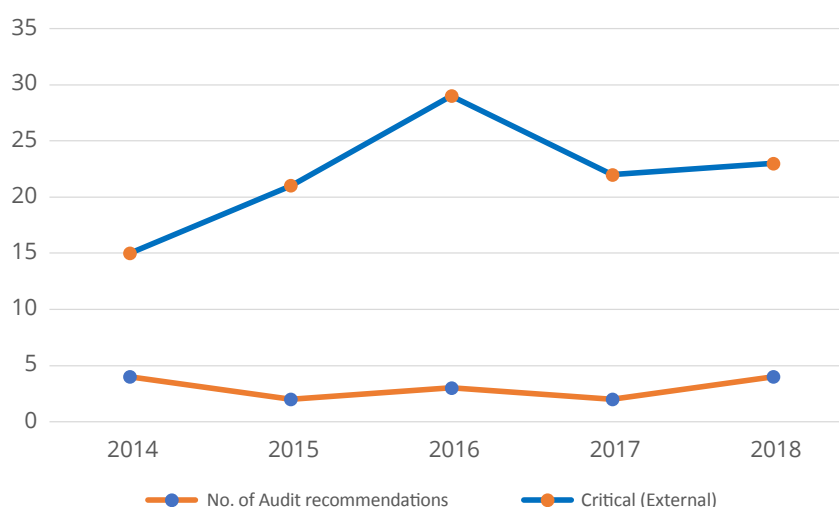
Audits performed in 2018

Table 2: shows the audits completed in 2018

TYPE OF COVERAGE	TYPE OF AUDIT	AUDIT COVERAGE
Country operations	External	Audit of six country operations
	Internal	Audit of UN-Habitat Office in Barcelona
Sub-programme Operations	Internal	Audit of the Research and Capacity Building Sub programme at UN-Habitat
Critical Business process	Internal	Audit of contract management
Consolidated	External	Audit of financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017

Table 3: Five-year trend analysis of audit recommendations

YEAR	NUMBER OF AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS	CRITICAL INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS	CRITICAL EXTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS
2014	15	4	3
2015	21	–	2
2016	29	–	3
2017	22	–	2
2018	23	–	4
5-year average	22	1	3

Figure 2: showing 5- year trend of audit recommendations

Implementation of audit recommendations

The overall implementation rate is 76 per cent (target of 85 per cent). The actual implementation was 11 per cent below target in 2018, mainly due to resources constraints.

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